THE NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, JUN., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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Washington, D. C.	Par.	Maryland	1-2 dis.
Baltimore	Par.	Virginia	3-4 dis.
Philadelphia	Par.	Western Virginia	1 1-2 dis.
New York city	Par.	Ohio	2 1-4 dis.
New York State	3-4 dis.	Indiana	2 1-4 dis.
New England	1-2 dis.	Kentucky	2 1-4 dis.
New Jersey	3-4 dis.	Tennessee	3 1-2 dis.
Eastern Penn.	3-4 dis.	Michigan	3 dis.
Western Penn.	1 1-2 dis.	Canada	5 dis.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 8, 1849.

For the National Era.

SKETCHES OF MODERN REFORMS AND REFORMERS, IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

No. 18.—*Parliamentary Reform—Origin of House of Commons—Rotten Boroughs——Old Sarum—The Unreformed House—French Revolution of 1830—Rally for Reform—Wellington Resigns—Grey in Power—His plan of Reform—Bill Defeated—Firmness of King William—New Parliament Summoned—Commons pass the Bill—Brougham's Speech in Lords—Peers throw out the Bill—Mrs Partington—Riots—Again Bill Passed by Commons, and again Defeated by Peers—Ministers Resign—Are Recalled—The Bill becomes a Law—Its Defects.*

[CONCLUDED.]

All parties girded themselves for such a conflict as England had not witnessed for a century. After an inveterate contest of three weeks, the English bill (one for each Kingdom was introduced) passed its second reading in the House by a majority of only one, a hostile motion being carried at the same sitting by eight. The next day, ministers announced that they should dissolve Parliament, and appeal to the people. At this suggestion, the opposition broke through all restraint, and denounced them as revolutionists and traitors. They dreaded the appeal, for they knew the country was with the ministry. The Tory Peers resolved on the desperate measure of preventing the dissolution, by arresting the reading of the King's speech. The day came, and brought with it a scene of uproar in both Houses which baffles description. A writer in the Edinburgh Review says:

"A hope had remained, that the project of stopping the King's speech, and interposing an address, might succeed. That hope rested entirely upon the speech being read by the Chancellor, (Brougham,) and not by the King in person. Suddenly the thunder of the guns was heard to roar, breaking the silence of the anxious crowds without, and drowning even the noise that filled the walls of Parliament. In the fulness of his royal state, and attended by all his magnificent Court, the monarch approached the House of Lords. Preceded by the great officers of state and of the household, he moved through the vast halls, which were filled with troops in iron mail, as the outside courts were with horse, while the guns boomed, and martial music filled the air. Having stopped in the robing chamber in order to put on his crown, he entered the House and ascended the throne, while his officers and ministers crowded around him. As soon as he was seated, he ordered the usher of the black rod to summon the Commons; and his Majesty, after passing some bills, addressed them. By those who were present, the effect will not soon be forgotten, of the first words he pronounced, or the firmness with which they were uttered, when he said that 'he had come to meet his Parliament in order to prorogue it, with a view to its immediate dissolution, for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of his people in regard to such changes in the representation as circumstances might appear to require.' He then, with an audible voice, commanded the Lord Chancellor to prorogue; which being done, the Houses dispersed, and the royal procession returned amidst the hearty and enthusiastic shouts of thousands of the people."

Great praise is due to the "Sailor King" for the firmness with which he stood by his reform ministers in this crisis, despite the clamors of alarmists in Church and State.

At the elections, the friends of the bill swept the country. They carried nearly all the counties, and all the cities and large towns. Its opponents obtained their recruits chiefly from close corporations and rotten boroughs. The English bill was proposed on the 15th of June, and, after a running fight of more than two months, passed the Commons by 109 majority, and was sent to the Lords. The greatest anxiety was felt for its fate in that ancient refuge of heartless conservatism. The debate on the second reading continued four nights. On the last evening, October 7th, Lord Brougham spoke five hours in its support, making the great effort of his great life. His speech was an era in the history of that House.

He replied *seriatim* to the opponents of the measure, dissecting this lord with keen logic, scathing that marquis with impassioned rebuke, holding this duke's ignorance up to ridicule, putting down the effrontery of that viscount, basting this earl with the oil of flattery while he roasted him with intense reasoning, till he slew or routed all his "noble" foes. He then discussed the principles and details of the bill, bringing to their defence and elucidation those rich stores of learning, argument, eloquence, wit, sarcasm, denunciation, and appeal, which have given him an undying name. The radical boldness of his doctrines, and the *abandon* with which he demolished "illustrious dukes," or tore the drapery from "noble lords," were no less remarkable features of this speech, than its transcendent ability. Lord Dudley, probably the best educated and most polished scholar and orator in the House, had sneered at "the statesmen of Birmingham, and the philosophers of Manchester." Brougham repelled the sneer, and, in a passage of cutting power, contrasted Lord Dudley's accomplishments with the practical sense of the men he had traduced, closing it by saying, "To affirm that I could ever dream of putting the noble earl's opinions, ay, or his knowledge, in any comparison with the bold, rational, judicious, reflecting, natural, and, because natural, the trustworthy opinions of those honest men, who always give their strong sense fair play, having no affectations to warp their judgment—to dream of any such comparison as this, would be, on my part, a flattery far too gross for any courtesy, or a blindness which no habits of friendship could excuse."

He was frequently interrupted by the Tory lords, and on one occasion they shouted, "Hear! hear!" as if in chorus. Suddenly lowering his voice, and turning towards them, he calmly said:

"I hope the noble lords will themselves follow the course their cries seem to recommend, and endeavor to *hear*. Excess of noise may possibly deter some speakers from performing their duty; but my political education (of which we are now speaking) has been in the House of Commons; my habits were formed there; and no noise will stop me. I say so in tenderness to the noble persons who are thus clamorous; and that, thus warned, they may spare their own lungs those exertions which can have no effect except on my ears, and perhaps to make me more tedious."

He brought his great speech to a close, by uttering this solemn warning:

"My lords, I do not disguise the intense solicitude I feel for the event of this debate, because I know full well that the peace of the country is involved in the issue. I cannot look without dismay at the rejection of this measure. But, grievous as may be the consequences of a temporary defeat—temporary it can only be—for its ultimate, and even speedy success, is certain. Nothing can now stop it. Do not suffer yourselves to be persuaded that, even if the present ministers were driven from the helm, any one could steer you through the troubles which surround you, without reform. But our successors would take up the task in circumstances far less auspicious. Under them, you would be fain to grant a bill, compared with which, the one we now proffer you is moderate indeed. Hear the parable of the Sybil; for it conveys a wise and wholesome moral. She now appears at your gate, and offers you mildly the volumes, the precious volumes of wisdom and peace. The price she asks is reasonable; to restore the franchise which, without any bargain, you ought voluntarily to give. You refuse her terms, her moderate terms. She darkens the porch no longer. But soon, for you cannot do without her wares, you call her back. Again she comes, but with diminished treasures. The leaves of the book are in part torn away by lawless hands; in part defaced with characters of blood. But the prophetic maid had risen in her demands—it is Parliaments by the Year—it is Vote by the Ballot—it is Suffrage by the Million! From this, you turn away indignant, and for a second time she departs. Beware of her third coming; for the treasure you must have; and what price she may next demand, who shall tell? It may be even the mace which rests upon that woolsack. What may follow your course of obstinacy, if persisted in, I cannot take upon me to predict, nor do I wish to conjecture. But this I well know—that, as sure as man is mortal, and to err is human, justice deferred enhances the price at which you must purchase safety and peace; nor can you expect to gather in another crop than they did who went before you, if you persevere in their utterly abominable husbandry, of sowing injustice and reaping rebellion. . . You are the highest judicature in the realm. It is a judge's first duty never to pronounce sentence, in the most trifling case, without hearing. Will you make this the exception? Are you really prepared to determine, but not to hear, the mighty cause upon which a nation's hopes and fears hang? You are! Then beware of your decision! Rouse not a peace-loving but resolute people. Alienate not from your body the affections of a whole empire. I counsel you to assist with your uttermost efforts in preserving the peace, and upholding and perpetuating the Constitution. Therefore I pray and exhort you not to reject this measure. By all you hold dear—by all the ties that bind every one of us to our common order and our common country, I solemnly adjure you, I warn you, I implore you, yea, on my bended knees, I supplicate you, reject not this bill!"

The warning and the appeal were in vain. The bill was thrown out on the second reading by 41 majority. The struggle for the mastery between the people and the nobility had now come. The Commons adopted a strong vote of confidence in ministers, and ministers resolved to stand by the bill. The country was profoundly agitated, and the firmness of ministers averted a revolution. Parliament was prorogued till December. In the vacation, reform meetings assembled in unprecedented numbers. On one of these occasions, at Taunton, Sydney Smith first brought to notice a venerable matron whose name is likely to be immortal in both hemispheres. In the course of his speech, the witty divine said:

"I do not mean to be disrespectful, but the attempt of the Lords to stop the progress of reform reminds me very forcibly of the great storm of Sidmouth, and of the conduct of the excellent Mrs. Partington on that occasion. In the winter of 1824, there set in a great flood upon that town—the tide rose to an incredible height—the waves rushed in upon the houses, and everything was threatened with destruction. In the midst of this sublime and terrible storm, Dame Partington, who lived upon the beach, was seen at the door of her house with mop and pattens, trundling her mop, and squeezing out the sea-water, and vigorously pushing away the Atlantic Ocean. The Atlantic was roused. Mrs. Partington's spirit was up; but I need not tell you that the contest was unequal. The Atlantic Ocean beat Mrs. Partington. She was excellent at a slop, or a puddle, but she should not have meddled with a tempest. Gentlemen, be at your ease—be quiet and steady. You will beat Mrs. Partington."

Two or three riots gave diversity to the scene. At Derby, the mob demolished the property of some anti-reformers—they terribly frightened Sir Charles Wetherell, at Bristol—they burnt the Duke of Newcastle's turreted seat, at Nottingham—they smashed the windows of Apsley House, the town residence of the Duke of Wellington. With these exceptions, all was law-abiding, the people watching with their armor on.

Parliament met in December. The King's speech firmly urged reform. Lord John introduced the English bill, slightly improved. A factious opposition, and an adjournment for the holydays, kept it suspended till the 22d of March, 1832, when it passed the Commons, and was sent to the Lords. After a hot debate, it passed the second reading, when a hostile amendment, which destroyed its utility, was sprung upon the House and adopted, on the 7th of May. The next day, Lord Grey asked, according to a previous understanding, for the creation of a sufficient number of Peers to carry the bill. The King declined. Ministers instantly resigned. The Commons addressed the King in behalf of ministers, with rare boldness. The people assembled *en masse*, and petitioned the Commons to stop the supplies. Many meetings resolved to pay no more taxes till the bill became a law. The King requested the Iron Duke to form a compromise administration. At this proposal, the popular indignation was kindled afresh. Things were approaching a crisis. The Duke tried to execute the royal wish—the ultras of both parties were not invited to seats in the Cabinet—the half-and-half reformers would not come through fear—and he gave up the task in despair. The King recalled Grey, with a pledge to create new Peers, if necessary. This brought the refractory Lords to terms. Dreading the introduction of so large a body of liberals into their ancient hall, whose votes would avail the reformers in future contests, a sufficient number of Tories absented themselves from the Peers to insure the passage of the bill. Those who remained concentrated, in their dying howlings, the venom of the entire opposition. The English bill received the royal assent on the 7th of June, 1832. The Scotch and Irish bills speedily followed, and the month of July, after a two years' contest, which had shaken the empire to its centre, saw the new Constitution of the House of Commons established.

Though the Reform Bill has not proved to be as large a concession to the popular demands as was intended, nor as beneficial to the country as was anticipated, it was the greatest tribute to the democratic principle which the nation had paid since the Commonwealth. Its defects will be discussed when we examine the Chartist movement. The principal are, doing homage to the ghost of rotten-boroughism, by leaving so many small constituencies—the gross disparity in their size, some having a population of only two thousand to a member, others half a million—the unjust treatment of Ireland, as compared with the rest of the Kingdom, the average population per member in Ireland being 76,000, and in England only 28,000—the basing of electoral qualifications on property, or, if so based, attaching so much importance to property in the soil, to the exclusion of other species, and erecting so variable a standard in towns as a £10 household rent, which in small places reaches the highest class of houses, and in populous cities the lowest—the rejection of the ballot—and the seven years' duration of Parliaments. In all these respects, the Chartists are right—of whom, more in the sequel.

H. B. S.

NOTE TO No. 15.—I agree with my friend, Dr. Brisbane, in his criticism on a sentence in this number, *as he understands it*. But, owing perhaps to its obscurity, he misunderstands it. Where I say, "all sects have been persecutors in their turn," the specification immediately following, with the whole context, show that I confined the remark to dominant sects in Great Britain and Ireland. Being descended, on the paternal side, from a long line of Baptists, I know enough of their history to say, that for two centuries that sect has borne a leading part in political and ecclesiastical reforms in two hemispheres. In every contest for civil and religious liberty in England, it has been among the first to enter the field, and the last to leave it.

For the National Era.

THE LAKE QUI PARLE.

In the woods of Iowa, the traveller may find a beautiful lake, whose waters respond the words, "Qui Parle." This name was doubtless bestowed by some Canadian hunter, startled by the echo from its gleaming surface, as though he had found a human voice in the wilderness.

O'er the blue and limpid water
Came an echo from the wood,
Calling to the dark-hued daughter,
Who in silent musing stood—

Where her light canoe was stranded
On the rough and rocky shore,
When the pale-faced stranger landed,
Who returns, alas! no more!

"Weep no longer, Kansas maiden,
O'er thy hopeless dream of love;
Turn thine eyes, with tear-drops laden,
To a brighter world above.

"He, thy faithless, truant lover,
Journeys far, oh, far away,
Nor may echo's voice discover
Where his lingering footsteps stray.

"Had thy native tribe no brave,
Whom thy heart could freely bless?
Wherefore to the *stranger* gave
Thy soul its wealth of tenderness?"

"Oh! his voice was sweetly mild,
Much I loved it's pleasant sound,
And still, methinks, within this wild
His spirit-home is found.

"I know his body is not here,
Nor doth a single trace remain,
But yet at times I joy to hear
His long-lost words again.

"At sunset's calm and holy hour,
I come to view this charmed lake,
And here, with all affection's power,
I call upon my love to wake.

"And oh! when hushed the evening breeze,
O'er the blue waves his answers come,
'Call me no more, sweet Eloise,
For I have journeyed home.'

"Then bid me not desert this shore,
Nor name another love to me;
What though his *form* returns no more,
His *spirit* daily visits me.

"And still I call this lake, so dear,
By the sweet name that he once gave;
'Twill surely please my love to hear
Again his title for its wave."

CONSTANCE.

Philadelphia, December 26, 1848.

BOUNTY LAND LOCATIONS.

BALTIMORE, *December 28*, 1848.

To the Editor of the National Era:

DEAR SIR: Though decidedly opposed to the policy you advocate, as unjust to the South, and dangerous to the Union, I have always regarded you as a conscientious man, who would scorn to descend to misrepresentation for the purpose of influencing the minds of your readers. That you are engaged in a work of disorganization, which must result in incalculable injury to both the white and black race, I have never doubted; but I have classed you among those who honestly believe in the principles they avow. I cannot, however, believe you to be sincere in the argument which you adopt from the North American in your last number, and I am only surprised that you should aid in the circulation of so transparent an imposition. After setting forth the fact that of the 1,775,520 acres of bounty lands located, only 263,720 acres, or the proportion of *one* to *six*, have been located in the Southern States, you attempt to draw the inference that the fact is attributable to the unpopularity of Southern institutions with the people of the South. In substance, you assert that the Southern volunteers, by whom more than half of these bounties were held, have, in order to escape the evils of Slavery, left the South to "select homes" in the free States; and, from this assumed fact, you go on to infer that "*six-sevenths*" of the Southern men who fought in the late war are in favor of preserving the Territory acquired, free.

Now, sir, before venturing an assertion so ridiculously absurd, you should have first made it appear that of the million and a half of acres located in the free States, one solitary acre was taken up by a Northern soldier! I cannot believe that you are ignorant of the fact, that scarcely any of the bounties have been located by either the Northern or Southern volunteers. On the contrary, are you not aware that nearly all the warrants were bought up by Northern and Eastern capitalists, through their agents, who beset the poor soldier in every town and city, from the hour of their landing on the levee at New Orleans, until they had parted with the title to the bounty of their Government? You have certainly seen in your own city the placards that were posted at every corner, bidding "the highest price for bounty land warrants;" and you have seen, too, how the poor soldier has been bargained, not to say wronged, out of his interest, by craven speculators, who, while the former were perilling their lives in that "unrighteous war," were pouring out their souls in pious lamentations for our victories. If you have not seen these things, you can at least inform yourself, with a little trouble, what proportion of these lands have been located in large bodies by speculators, and how few acres are in the hands of the original holders.

But even if your statement of the case be true, it would still bear no such inference as you have drawn. A land warrant calls for, say 160 acres, which may be located on the unoccupied lands of Florida, worth two dollars an acre, or on those of Indiana, worth double or treble that sum. Then would your argument hold, even if the Northern volunteer, who wished to locate his land as an investment, were to choose the more valuable lands of the West? Certainly not. In every aspect, your argument is utterly untenable, and is only worthy of an unscrupulous politician, who has a temporary purpose to effect, and who is capable of any deception to mislead the public.

If you can convince the people of the South of the pernicious influence of their institutions, and at the same time point out to them some feasible plan of getting rid of them, you will perform the part of a true philanthropist; but for the sake of peace, of the Union, and the security and happiness of both races, do not seek, by disseminating error and fostering prejudice, to involve this Republic in the dreadful issue that perhaps the best counsels will not be able to avert.

First convince the people that the existence of slavery is a greater evil than its abolition would be to them, before you attempt to convince them that they are Abolitionists.

Very respectfully, yours,

SOUTHRON.

OFFICIAL ELECTION RETURNS.

KENTUCKY.

Counties.	1848. Taylor.	Cass.	1844. Clay.	Polk.
Adair	568	549	548	639
Allen	423	553	401	635
Anderson	334	547	281	552
Ballard	277	281	282	400
Barren	1462	1048	1306	1108
Bath	724	782	611	783
Boone	935	769	888	712
Bourbon	1172	486	1208	521
Boyle	773	347	417	352
Bracken	795	472	753	443
Breathitt	143	151	120	231
Breckenridge	1006	422	924	464
Bullitt	499	399	528	436
Butler	349	204	351	290
Caldwell	826	841	780	966
Calloway	227	664	204	772
Campbell	511	814	358	618
Carroll	433	428	382	370
Carter	242	510	148	508
Casey	529	196	468	214
Christian	1132	786	1122	825
Clarke	1046	319	996	314
Clay	377	125	335	92
Clinton	286	294	262	315
Crittenden	342	399	284	399
Cumberland	642	153	590	167
Davies	986	605	808	622
Edmonson	249	209	174	251
Estill	485	238	392	216
Fayette	1541	781	1695	824
Fleming	1159	700	1143	771
Floyd	260	225	190	340
Franklin	926	664	816	634
Fulton	191	273	(new county.)	
Gallatin	360	368	348	351
Garrard	1177	191	1128	229
Grant	485	529	306	493
Graves	468	772	386	884
Grayson	507	345	432	386
Greene	517	512	837	1042
Greenup	640	516	593	385
Hancock	304	166	277	213
Hardin	1239	631	1095	702
Harlan	350	56	334	75
Harrison	891	896	859	975
Hart	586	528	579	558
Henderson	731	559	719	638
Henry	827	1022	708	1044
Hickman	169	353	304	740
Hopkins	796	766	701	814
Jefferson	3997	2900	1092	1042
Jessamine	682	439	616	469
Johnson	106	214	85	252
Kenton	985	1228	687	920
Knox	648	159	589	164
Larue	478	349	382	333
Laurel	488	145	384	124
Lawrence	414	318	347	345
Letcher	—	—	29	161
Lewis	521	566	506	543
Lincoln	832	325	769	335
Livingston	403	265	424	327
Logan	1402	358	1407	374
Madison	1313	564	1202	633
Marion	765	629	715	737
Marshall	120	496	94	600
Mason	1631	953	1608	799
McCracken	407	308	256	195
Meade	713	225	650	223
Mercer	734	1088	557	985
Monroe	586	379	451	473
Montgomery	688	548	695	597
Morgan	413	490	247	512
Muhlenburg	746	437	657	489
Nelson	1149	464	1326	608
Nicholas	673	764	678	703
Ohio	718	542	601	513
Oldham	476	488	426	625
Owen	533	810	485	937
Owsley	330	248	165	129
Pendleton	375	599	287	930
Perry	—	—	113	84
Pike	225	140	251	238
Pulaski	947	734	727	708
Rockcastle	497	95	451	73
Russell	519	180	431	178
Scott	797	734	803	938
Shelby	1434	716	1441	796
Simpson	448	428	455	418
Spencer	460	351	469	508
Taylor	324	469	(new county.)	
Todd	808	409	784	406
Twigg	588	632	557	651
Trimble	361	486	268	507
Union	501	458	507	584
Warren	1226	603	1132	687
Washington	721	678	660	709
Wayne	689	405	535	342
Whitley	584	93	431	99
Woodford	778	337	750	473
Total	67,141	49,720	61,255	51,988

TENNESSEE.

Counties.	1848. Taylor.	Cass.	1844. Clay.	Polk.
Anderson	602	250	620	325
Bedford	1497	1381	1455	1526
Benton	392	459	292	481
Bledsoe	508	229	529	250
Blount	965	663	1046	735
Bradley	760	927	572	958
Campbell	473	279	337	318
Cannon	469	827	318	761
Carroll	1493	560	1356	524
Carter	745	129	739	177
Claiborne	700	744	578	857
Cocke	815	189	844	187
Coffee	332	943	280	1000
Davidson	2698	1976	2266	1683
Decatur	384	277	—	—
De Kalb	571	573	488	491
Dickson	386	674	339	706
Dyer	383	271	356	272
Fayette	1217	1060	1205	1151
Fentress	113	432	60	456
Franklin	390	1207	358	1123
Gibson	1423	688	1320	611
Giles	1389	1511	1301	1387
Grainger	1094	489	998	548
Greene	963	1483	1031	1701
Hamilton	685	634	644	624
Hardeman	723	1016	689	1077
Hardin	621	770	505	732
Hawkins	1252	1243	1173	1388
Haywood	800	672	756	668
Henderson	1286	860	1209	492
Henry	860	1349	835	1312
Hickman	301	988	255	1304
Humphreys	309	482	305	523
Jackson	1269	801	1211	807
Jefferson	1468	215	1563	247
Johnson	382	66	370	79
Knox	2140	439	2015	507
Lauderdale	279	274	286	211
Lawrence	596	544	489	547
Lincoln	680	2584	658	2494
Madison	1562	737	1357	768
McMinn	960	1024	873	1061
McNairy	939	786	773	741
Marion	562	336	503	381
Marshall	730	1408	635	1398
Maury	1516	1970	1292	1988
Meigs	150	534	120	602
Monroe	962	960	859	1086
Montgomery	1288	969	1271	1029
Morgan	229	187	211	232
Obion	357	487	282	536
Overton	467	1112	336	1145
Perry	433	287	744	513
Polk	367	517	260	488
Rhea	298	324	232	368
Roane	998	671	900	735
Robertson	1239	839	1193	871
Rutherford	1754	1439	1730	1500
Sevier	787	57	738	78
Shelby	1828	1607	1625	1352
Smith	2380	719	2328	788
Stewart	574	705	519	704
Sullivan	436	1375	350	1533
Sumner	922	1994	881	2017
Tipton	352	482	360	502
Van Buren	130	198	116	190
Warren	407	1183	335	1190
Washington	862	1016	881	1225
Wayne	673	386	665	446
Weakley	669	1080	560	1084
White	1064	503	857	468
Williamson	1883	793	1986	859
Wilson	2517	998	2607	1042
Total	64,705	58,419	60,030	59,917

THE NEW YORK SLAVE CASE.

Many reports have been published in the papers of the recent slave case in New York city, and our Southern readers will doubtless be anxious to have a correct version. The following from the New York Evening Post appears to be authentic:

"A few days since we mentioned the arrest of a colored man, Joseph Belt, as the alleged slave of Mr. Thomas Lee, of Frederick county, Maryland. The man was arrested without any warrant from a magistrate or judge, and brought to Long Island for the purpose of sending him back to his owner, and was there kept in confinement. A warrant was then obtained from Judge Edmonds to bring the man before him, and the persons who held him in custody were called on to show cause why he should not be set at liberty. The case was argued on Tuesday, and again yesterday afternoon.

"The following are the points taken by counsel for the discharge of Belt:

"'I. This is not a proceeding under the act of Congress for the recovery of fugitives; the alleged master has not come here voluntarily for a certificate, but he has been dragged here by force of law, on a complaint entered on behalf of Belt.

"'That act, therefore, has nothing to do with the proceedings, and no certificate can be properly demanded under it. The Judge will be governed by the Revised Statutes, (2d vol., 469, § 40 and 41,) and discharge the party, unless legal cause be shown.

"'Belt stands here as a free citizen, in a free State; the court will so regard him until the contrary be proved, in accordance with the usual rules of evidence.

"'Supposing that he has been held as a slave by Lee, and has escaped from him, it does not follow that he was legally held. He may have been kidnapped from a free State, and reduced to slavery unjustly. [See law of New York, 1840, appointing agents to recover citizens who had been kidnapped.] His insisting there that he is not legally held to service, but is a free citizen, is sufficient denial, under 2 Revised Statutes, page 471, § 50. This is a matter affecting liberty, and every intendment is to be made in favor of freedom. The proceeding is a summary one, and the strict rules of pleading are not required to be followed in it, provided the sworn answers are sufficient in substance.

"'The reply is therefore good, and the demurrer should be overruled.

"'II. Even if the reply of Belt be construed as admitting that he was the slave of Lee, which it does not; and if the court were sufficiently satisfied of that fact, which they cannot be by any admission expressed or implied, still the other facts shown by the reply sufficiently show that the imprisonment in which he was found on the service of the writ was illegal.

"'First. The arrest was illegal. The recapture of slaves can only be made—

"'1. Under the act of Congress of 1792, or

"'2. Under the Constitution of the United States.

"'Belt was not captured under the act, for he was not taken before a magistrate, nor any certificate obtained for his removal. His capture, to have been legal, must therefore have been under power conferred by the Constitution; but if the Constitution does give such right, it gives only on condition that it "be done without a breach of the peace, or illegal violence." [In re Kirk.] The owner's privilege being in derogation of State rights, the rights of every free citizen are to be preserved; the power to seize the slave is coupled with the condition that there be no illegal violence; and if the condition is broken in the execution of the power, the power is gone, and the arrest is void.

"'Here there was illegal violence towards a free citizen, *Peck*, in the arrest of Belt, and an infringement of the public peace, and the arrest of Belt was therefore illegal *ab initio*, and any subsequent detention under it void.

"'Second. The answer shows the detention to have been illegal, even if the arrest were good.

"'The power of recapture of slaves is in derogation of State sovereignty and common law rights, and must be strictly followed. It is given simply for the purpose of removing the slave to the State whence he fled. See act of Congress, 1792.

"'The owner is entitled to reasonable time to remove his slave, but may not detain him here for his convenience.

"'Here no intention to remove immediately the boy appears, but the contrary.

"'Belt was taken from the city of New York, the usual port of departure, where opportunities abound, to a remote village, and removed from house to house for the purpose of concealment and confinement, until an indefinite period, when some other negro should have been captured. Such detention cannot be justified now, nor could it have been justified if a certificate had been previously obtained by Lee under the act of Congress, for such certificate warrants not the detention in the State, but only the removal of the slave out of the State. The reply of Belt is therefore sufficient, and the demurrer must be overruled.

"'III. If the demurrer is overruled, and the reply held sufficient, Belt is entitled to be immediately discharged. The record shows his right to freedom, apart from any facts that might be produced; and as it is in the discretion of the court to decide finally on the present hearing, they will not detain an innocent man, who is to be held free until proved to be a slave, in order to allow the respondent to procure or manufacture proof of his slavery. He should have brought legal proof when he first came to arrest him.

"'Mr. Whiting, on the previous day, entered a demurrer to the answer, contending that nothing had been shown in it to controvert the return, which proved, by affidavit, that Belt was a slave to Mr. Lee, and the latter was entitled to an order for his delivery. Judge Edmonds yesterday overruled the demurrer, the answer stating that it did not admit that Belt had ever been the servant or slave of Mr. Lee, and also insisting that he is a free citizen of the State of New York. This is a sufficient answer to the return, and requires proof on the part of Mr. Lee to show that he is owner of Belt as claimed, and that he was in custody, after being arrested by Messrs. Bird and Clayton, for the purpose of being carried before a Judge, with a view to a warrant, agreeably to the act of Congress, or if he was so for a different purpose. If the latter, the Judge said he might be entitled to a discharge, although he had been held to servitude.

"'Mr. Child asked if Belt was not, as the case stands, entitled to be discharged? We deny the whole of the gentleman's return.

"'The court thought it had not been fully denied in the answer, and there were allegations in it which require to be tried.

"'Mr. Whiting, counsel of Mr. Lee, said he would produce testimony showing Belt to be the property of Mr. Lee, &c., and called a witness.

"'Mr. Jay claimed to be entitled to a jury, under the law of 1840, to pass upon a fact, but withdrew the request.'

"A young man named Lee, nephew of the alleged master, was then examined in relation to the identity of the slave, and in relation to his being the slave of Lee. He testified also that Belt was a mulatto. In summing up, Mr. Whiting's principal positions were—

"'A want of jurisdiction in the Judge, the owner having the option to carry the slave before a Judge of the United States Court or the State Courts; that, by a decision of the United States Court, Judge McLean held, that in slave States all persons of color must be prima facie considered slaves; and in free States all persons, without distinction of color, considered free; and that it having been shown Belt resided in Maryland, it must be considered an additional proof in support of the claim.

"'On the other hand, it was intimated that another decision makes a mulatto in a slave State prima facie free.

"'At the close of the argument, the Judge said, in order to hold the man as a slave, two things were necessary: to show that slavery was authorized by the constitution and laws of Maryland, which had not been done in a manner satisfactory to the law; and that the object of the individuals having Belt in custody, at the time the warrant with which he was brought here was issued, was to take him before a Judge, agreeably to the act of Congress. This not only had not been done, but the return itself in a measure allows some other intention. All that the court can do, therefore, is to place Belt in the position he was before being arrested by Messrs. Bird and Clayton, and he is therefore discharged.

"'Mr. Whiting asked the Judge to exercise his discretionary power to detain him until application could be made to the United States Court; but the Judge replied, adopting the counsel's own argument of want of jurisdiction, he was not called upon to do as requested; and if it was merely discretionary, it was a matter not to his taste, and he did not feel called upon, under the circumstances of the case, to interfere. In the mean time, the District Attorney told Belt he was discharged, and could be off.

"'Mr. Lee, as understood in court, has a right to arrest Belt, should he find him, and take him before a Judge, for warrant to be conveyed to Maryland.

"'Previous to the proceedings being commenced, Mr. Jay obtained leave to take the deposition of Belt on behalf of Peck, who was seized at the same time, with a view to an action for assault and battery against all the parties arresting them.

"'It is said another person belonging to Mr. L. left Baltimore at the same time Belt did, and was supposed to be in this city.'"

MR. WILSON ON THE QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR SLAVES.

In the House, Friday, December 29th, in Committee of the Whole, the bill for the payment of a slave, claimed by Antonio Pacheco, being under discussion, Mr. Wilson, of New Hampshire, after some preliminary remarks, proceeded as follows:

"What had been the early history of the Government on this subject? The first case to which he had turned his attention would be found in the fourth volume of MS. reports, page 160, of the first session of the Fourteenth Congress. It was the case of Lieutenant Montgomery, who took his slave with him, Lieutenant M. being an officer in the service. The slave was killed. Claim for compensation was made. The committee, composed of men from all sections of the country, said in their report that "it was not conceived that the United States ought to be liable for the value of the slave, if he should be killed, or by any other accident lost to the owner."

This was the first case he had been able to find. Such had been the report of the committee in that case, and that report had been sustained, upon full consideration, by the House. This was some time subsequent to the last war. That colored persons were employed was unquestionable. Many of them were killed, maimed, or otherwise injured, yet he found no claim asking for compensation prior to the Fourteenth Congress.

The next case he would instance was that of William P. Lawrence, a slave, who died of contagious disease. The claim was disallowed, upon the ground that Congress was not liable to pay for slaves. (See MS. reports, vol. 4, page 186.)

These cases had been reported upon by the Committee on Claims. Sometimes there had been on that committee a majority of one from the North, sometimes of one from the South; but in the cases to which he had referred, so far as appeared from the reports, the opinion was always unanimous against the liability of Congress to pay for this species of damage.

The third case was that of Basil Shaw, (1st session, 15th Congress, MS. reports, vol. 4, page 396)—a claim for a slave killed on the 8th of January, 1815. The committee in that case declared that "they were decidedly of the opinion that Congress were under no obligation whatever to remunerate the petitioner." No principle of legislation was perhaps better settled than this, that for such losses Government could not be liable.

A slave case occurred at the 16th Congress, and resulted in a similar decision.

The fourth case to which he would invite attention was that of Robert Evans, (1st session, 15th Congress, 4th volume MS. reports, page 473.) The slave attended the sick, and died of fatigue and exposure. The committee declared that, if the slave had been killed in battle, the owner would not have been entitled to any compensation.

The fifth case was that of Parkhill's slave, (1st session 16th Congress, vol. 1, page 32,) the facts of which would be found to approach nearer to the suggestion of the gentleman from South Carolina. Parkhill lent his slave to another man, to aid in navigating a boat. On his arrival at New Orleans he was impressed. He worked in the marshes or swamps, and there contracted a disease of which he died. The claim was rejected. The gentleman from South Carolina might say that there was a distinction, because it was not distinctly proved that the death was the consequence of exposure, and that upon that ground it was rejected.

There was another case in the 17th Congress, to which he would not particularly refer.

In all these cases, claims for compensation for losses of this description had invariably been rejected. But he would go further. During the 18th Congress, a case came up in which it appeared that, either voluntarily or by impressment, a slave had been put to work on the defences of New Orleans. It was the case of D'Auterive. The committee reported against the claim; but the friends of the petitioner on the floor of the House moved an amendment providing compensation for injuries the slave had received, which rendered him less valuable after the service than he had been before. A long debate followed, and the result of the whole matter was adverse to the claim.

The cases which he had cited all bore upon the claim now before the committee. That claim necessarily brought up for the consideration of Congress the question of property in colored men.

He was opposed to the passage of the bill, because he believed that the whole policy of the Government, as illustrated in its history, had been adverse to the recognition, under the Constitution of the United States, of the right of persons to property in slaves. He spoke of the subject with reference to the Constitution of the United States. He did not intend to deny that slaves might be property according to the local laws of the States, in which laws might be passed to make them property. He held, however, that these laws were against natural right, and that they should not have any influence beyond the territory to which they were made to apply.

And he would ask the particular attention of the Committee to this point. It was necessary, in the first place, for the friends of the bill to show that, under this Government, slaves were property, and property merely.

In the second place, that if taken into the public service, slaves were taken as property, and not as persons.

In the third place, that slaves could not be used by the Government in any other way than as property, and not as persons.

His own view of the Constitution of the United States regarded them altogether, from beginning to end, as persons, and nothing else. It did not regard them as property in any form; and the members of this House were here to legislate for the Union of the country under the Constitution of the country.

In the next place, it would be found that all the allusions made in the Constitution to this kind of thing was made as to persons. For example: in the second section of the first article, it was provided that "representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons."

This was the first reference.

Again: they were referred to in another clause of the Constitution, which provides that "persons held to service or labor" shall be delivered up to those to whom such service or labor may be due. In one other instance, also, they were referred to as persons.

But was there not on this floor evidence of the fact that they were regarded as persons, and nothing else? Would the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Burt] say how it was that the State of South Carolina, with a white population under the last census of 260,000, stood here with six colleagues, while the State of New Hampshire, with a free white population of 280,000, was represented here by only four representatives, unless it was that these other persons were represented also in this Hall? Would he explain how it was, that the State of South Carolina, with a population, as he had said, of 260,000, and the State of Florida, (from which this claim came,) with a white population of 30,000, (the two combined falling short of 300,000,) were represented in this House by eight members, and in the other end of the Capitol by four, when the State of Connecticut, with a population of 303,000, had but four representatives here, and two at the other end of the Capitol? Was it not because these were regarded as persons and counted as persons? The very declaration that they were not persons would vacate the seats of those who represented this class of persons on this floor. Not only here, but in the elections to fill the highest executive offices of the Government, that very population gave to the two States which he had named just double the power which the State of Connecticut, with her population of 303,000, possessed. It was because these persons were regarded as persons, and not as property. Could the doctrine be tolerated, that there was a representation on this floor, and a power given in the popular elections of the country founded upon property?

But he considered that there was manifest injustice in this claim. It was put upon the ground that the slave was property. Mr. W. proceeded to argue the injustice and inequality which would result, in the operation of the laws upon different sections of the Union, from the admission of such claims. It would be conceded that there were occasions when every person might be called upon to expose his person and property in defence of the country. Under such circumstances, a military commander could not stop to weigh the circumstances of the case very nicely. The person was bound to obey; and if he did not obey, he was liable to be shot down. The commander might call out a son, or an apprentice, and appropriate him to the purposes of defence. Was the South to enjoy a superior guarantee in this respect from the other portion of the country? Were the relations of the Government towards different sections of the country to be thus disastrously changed? If a freeman was called upon to do service, should he be allowed to say, excuse me, and take my slave? Were the obligations of the country thus to be changed? The rights of the Government and of individuals were reciprocal. Should the slave take the place of the master, and should the Government pay for the slave when it would not pay the man himself? Could it be possible that this Government was to be so administered, as to make compensation for that kind of persons, when every other man was bound to render his person for the defence of his country without compensation? The idea was not to be entertained for a moment.

The operation of the principle advocated here, and upon which the claim for the relief of the heirs of Pacheco was founded, changed the liability of the Government in relation to the rights of the owner of the property. The laws in all countries recognised certain rights; the parent had the right to the service of his son during his minority; the master had the right to the service of his indented apprentice during the period of his apprenticeship; but nowhere in this or in any other country of Christendom, since the introduction of the Christian religion, had it ever been heard that a parent or a master had received pay for losses sustained by the death or by the injury of his son or apprentice, when exposed under these circumstances in the defence of his country.

He begged to inquire of gentlemen on the other side, what particular point they now took, upon which they undertook to fix the liability of the Government for this man Lewis? Was it because Pacheco hired this man for $25 per month to the United States? Was that the point where the liability attached? Suppose, for a moment, that Pacheco had possessed the accomplishments of his servant Lewis; that he had been a philologist; that he had spoken four languages; that he had known the geography of the country; that he could talk the Indian, the Spanish, the French, and the English languages; and that Pacheco had gone himself, instead of sending this man Lewis: would any man pretend that the heirs of Pacheco, if he had been lost or captured, could have brought in a claim for damages? Again: supposing Pacheco had had a son eighteen or nineteen years of age, possessing all the accomplishments necessary for him to have performed the duties required by the officer of the detachment, and that he had entered the service and been captured or killed: would the father or the heirs have presented a claim for damages? And was it to be said in this country, that because a colored man was made a slave by the laws of Florida and of other Southern States, he stood on any higher ground, or his master stood on any higher ground, or had any stronger claim for damages when such colored man was killed in the defence of his country, than the parent or the master had for his son or his apprentice, who also fell in the service of his country? The colored man was made property by law, and against natural right. Human laws might make the African a slave; God made him a man, a person. Now, he asked gentlemen if there could be any distinction of that kind taken here—if Pacheco, or Pacheco's heirs, could come here with any less claim for the loss of the father or son, than for the loss of the slave? Or did the disability which attached to the colored man, by the local operation of the local laws, give this individual any superior claim upon the Government, or impose upon the Government any superior obligation to make compensation?

Let gentlemen take notice, that from the commencement of the Government up to 1816 or 1818, such claims had never been thought of being made. Since that time they had been brought forward; but with one solitary exception, which had been noticed by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Dickey] the other day, they had been resisted by the Government, and liability had been constantly refused. Now, he regretted the introduction of this subject here at this time. God knew that the country had been agitated quite enough upon this question. He dreaded it as much as any man dreaded it; and he hoped that in whatever he might say now, or at any other time, he should make use of no unkind expression which could give pain or distress to any gentleman on this floor. If he did, it would escape from him in the excitement of debate, when he intended no such thing. He had been treated with too much kindness, with too much courtesy and consideration, by gentlemen composing this honorable body, from every section of the Union, to allow him to say a word which should prompt any unkind feelings towards himself, or in the least impair his harmonious and friendly relations, either here or elsewhere, with gentlemen. But it must be obvious, that this question was agitating the country from one end of it to the other; it sprung from causes to which he might refer at some future time when he had opportunity; causes which took a strong hold upon the feelings of the people; causes which struck at the very foundation, and ran through every ramification of society. He knew it was said that it was a temporary excitement, and would soon be over; but he could speak here in the hearing of this House, and conscious that he was speaking to this country, that in his poor judgment, this hostility that was springing up in the minds of the people of the North to being involved in the maintenance or in the responsibility of the system of slavery was not easily to be quieted; nor were the people to be prevented from uttering their sentiments, and explaining its operation upon them. It sprung from a deep cause; gentlemen would find it so. In his judgment, there was every occasion for the members of this House to be cautious, careful, quiet in all their movements. Let him say that, in his poor judgment, there was no disposition and no feeling anywhere manifested to interfere with the rights of the slaveholders within the States. He did not understand it so. The people of the North stood upon the Constitution as it was; they planted themselves upon the Constitution as it was, and there they were ready to stand. Where the local laws of other sections operated, it was theirs to regulate the question of slavery; if slavery was a blessing, theirs were the benefits of it; if it was an evil and a curse, they must suffer for it, and not the people of the North. They had no disposition whatever to interfere with the local institutions of the South; but whenever Southern gentlemen came to the Government of the country, and asked them to recognise the right of property in slaves, and that this Government was obliged to pay for them, then they of the North took their stand, and said that the Constitution did not so obligate them. Whatever might be the views of Southern gentlemen at home, however they might look upon their slaves as property, under the Constitution of the United States, they of the North believed they were not property, and that the Treasury of the United States was not bound to pay for them when they were lost in the service of the country, as any white citizen might be.

Mr. Green interposed, and inquired of the gentleman from New Hampshire, if this Government had not imposed a direct tax upon slaves, and authorized them to be sold? and if they had not been sold by the Government? and if this was not a recognition by the Government that slaves were property?

Mr. Wilson replied, that he could not say what might have been the action of the Government at some time; he did not feel authorized to say that it might not have been such as the gentleman stated; but if it had been in any particular instance, it was not, in his poor judgment, such action as should bind the Government in all future time, or such as the free people of the country would tolerate to be continued."

Louis XV remarked, "truth reaches the ear of a king in the same proportion that money reaches his coffers—one per cent." "To dispute the opinion of a king," says Saadi, "is to stain your hands with your own blood. If the monarch says at mid-day, that it is night, hasten to agree with him, and add, that the moon is clear, and you see the stars."

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 11, 1849.

NOTICE.

All communications to the *Era*, whether on business of the paper, or for publication, should be addressed to

G. BAILEY, Jun., *Washington, D. C.*

CORRESPONDENTS.

We try to accommodate them as fast as we can, consistently with attention to matters of pressing interest. "*The Spirit that could always mourn,*" by W. C. Taylor, "*Ada, the Mistrel,*" by D. E. Ellis, and "*All Honor to the Pilgrim Bead,*" by E. D. Barber, shall appear. The former two accidentally slipped out of sight, or they would have been published before this. The MECHANIC, of Troy, will also receive attention.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We must have a little talk with our subscribers about personal matters. Many of them have renewed promptly their subscriptions; thus giving evidence of their good will. Many of them have sent us new subscribers, thus giving additional evidence of their interest in the paper. Many have accompanied their subscriptions with kind greetings and fervent blessings. How these strengthen the heart of an editor! Some have favored us with suggestions and hints, which have not all been thrown away.

We hope our friends will still remember us. We pay them every week a visit, and since they cannot return it in person, we can think of no better way of doing it, than by sending us new subscribers. This kind of visitation by proxy we set great store by.

From some business letters now under our eye, we cannot forbear making a few extracts.

D. C., of Blissfield, Michigan, who had suffered his subscription to expire without renewing it, writes in haste:

"'Tis of no use—I cannot do without the *Era*—must have it—could not sleep nights without it—and the glorious action of the House on Gott's resolution gives me so much faith, hope, and courage, that I must have the old District of Columbia Pioneer."

We shall be happy if all our subscribers who have neglected to renew, find themselves unable to "sleep nights."

A subscriber in Vermont writes:

"This town has a sparse population, about 200 voters, all told. Something like the same number of weekly journals is taken. [What would Henry A. Wise, and his newspaper-less district, think of that?] Let the same exertion be made in every town, and in every State, as has been made in this in behalf of the *Era*, and your circulation would be quadrupled, and in comparison to the influence hoped for, the labor would be light indeed."

A good friend in Northampton, Massachusetts, sending us two new subscribers, and his own name, remarks:

"If each of your present subscribers would forward you five dollars, and have only two copies of the *Era* sent to two new subscribers, obtained by them, in addition to establishing the *Era* on a firm foundation, they would insure the election of a Free Soil President in 1852."

Several of our subscribers have done this, but there is yet room. The writer appreciates the power of the press. Its issues are like a continual dropping—they wear away stone.

We feel no scruple in asking our friends to cooperate with us in extending the circulation of the *Era*. The greater number of minds we can bring under the influence of Liberty Principles, within a given space of time, the sooner our work will be done. It is a real economy of time and money, to labor with all our might at what we put our hands to. We think, in view of the location of our paper, the principles it advocates, the able minds that have been enlisted as contributors to its columns, and the vast consequences to result from the struggle in which with others it is engaged, it is not too much for us to hope that its list may this year be doubled. It can be with all ease, if each subscriber who believes it an efficient advocate of a good cause, will do something.

It will be recollected that every subscriber to the paper, by sending us five dollars, renews his own subscription, and secures two copies of the *Era* for one year, to be sent to such persons as he may designate. We have printed a large extra edition, from the first number, to supply a complete volume to those who may come in during this month and the next.

CORRECTION.

While writing for the above purpose, I would take the occasion to inform you, that in a late article on cheap postage, you were led into an error by the Postmaster General, in regard to the 235 expresses running out of Boston. You and he seem to think that the country letters for less than the postage rate, but it is not so. They always ask 12½ cents, and they derive their income from carrying parcels and executing commissions.

We are under obligations to our friend for correcting our mistake.—*Ed. Era.*

PHONETIC MAGAZINE.

This beautifully executed monthly, of 24 large pages, double column, printed in Phonotypes, making use of the perfected alphabet employed by Pitman, and not of that vastly inferior obsolete one, still employed in the Anglo-Saxon, has reached its fifth number. The February number is to be printed with types of superior beauty, imported from England, and is to be adorned with a fine engraved portrait of Pitman. The work richly deserves and it needs the patronage of the friends of the Printing Reform. Price only one dollar per annum. Send to your orders to Elias Longley, editor of the Phonetic Magazine, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A. J.

FREE COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE WITH CANADA.

A bill is now pending in the Senate, "to admit certain articles, the growth or production of Canada, into the United States, free of duty, upon condition that the like articles, of the growth and produce of the United States, be admitted into Canada" It is a wise measure, and, unless defeated by a short-sighted opposition, will be productive of great benefit both to Canada and the United States. It will relieve the commerce of the two countries from most unreasonable embarrassment; promote a good understanding between them, and multiply their mutual ties; and, by bringing a large portion of the breadstuffs, provisions, and timber of the colonies through our canals and railroads, to our ports for exportation, greatly benefit our mercantile and shipping interests. It is true, these benefits would be more largely shared in by New England and New York, and the States lying along the Lakes, but no injury would be done to any other section of the Union—no other interest could possibly suffer.

The bill was taken up last Monday, and gave rise to an interesting debate. The slaveholding members were particularly active in opposing it. Messrs. Hunter, of Virginia, and Downs, of Louisiana, Democratic Free Traders, denounced it as unequal, tending only to the benefit of New England and New York, though they did not undertake to show how it could injure any other section, except by adopting a visionary idea, started by Mr. Pearce of Maryland, that the wheat of the Baltic might find entrance into our markets in the indirect channel thus opened, and reduce the price of our grain!

We shall not be surprised if this most reasonable measure be defeated by a combination between the inveterate Protectionists and the Democratic Slaveholders of the South. The latter seem to see in this liberal policy, *the beginning of too friendly an intercourse between Canada and the United States.* "Perhaps," said Mr. Hunter, "it is the purpose of this bill to take a step towards Canada is not yet annexed, and perhaps this is a bill for that object." Suppose it were, is there any more harm in annexation at the North than at the South?

INEQUALITY—DEGRADATION.

The United States are a Confederacy of sovereign States—a compact between States which have an equal participation in the benefits and blessings. The best way to weaken it is to create alienation among the members, by inequality and oppression. Attempt to brand one State or section as inferiors, and you weaken the cords which bind them together. Let this inequality be felt in a case which is calculated to affect their most delicate interests, and, if persisted in, to endanger not only their property, but the safety of their freedes, and is it wonderful that a spirit of the strongest opposition should be excited? We speak, then, we repeat, not as Southrons, not as Virginians, but as Americans, proud of our country, and devoted to our Union. When we see these rights encroached upon, and tacitly taken, is it not our duty to speak out? Must we see the Union endangered, and yet maintain a disgraceful silence? Do we claim for ourselves less than the meanest? Far from it. The South claims only something like equality. They deprecate degradation. They wish to have the opportunity of participating in the new territories, acquired in part by their blood and their treasure. They would be content with the principle of the Missouri Compromise, although they are positively excluded from that is north of that line, whilst what is south of that line in California will never probably be enjoyed by them; and in New Mexico that strong ground is also against it. They ask the principle of non-intervention. This is another mode of settlement of the question; and this might bring it to a final close in the political tribunals. Or, they would be content with Mr. Clayton's judiciary bill, which, if necessary, would carry it directly to the courts. All that the South asks on the Territorial question is, not to disgrace them for what the North calls a mere abstraction—not to treat the Southern States as inferior populations, but to allow them the opportunity of settling in a part of the new territory with their slaves, or at least to give them the chance of trying their rights in the Union, a common and constitutional tribunal.—*The Union.*

The argument put forth in this paragraph is one on which great stress is laid by the opponents of Slavery-Restriction. It has been answered repeatedly, and so often have we noticed it, that we are in danger of wearying the patience of our readers by again adverting to it.

For one, we would advocate no policy or measure, leading, in our opinion, to the degradation of any State, or to a violation of the equality of rights to which by virtue of State sovereignty and under the Constitution they are entitled. We do not believe that any opponent of slavery wishes to oppress the South, or degrade it.

Freedom already exists in the Territories of New Mexico and California. Pass a law to maintain it there, prohibit the introduction of slavery, and whose rights are violated, what States are injured? Not the foreigner and native-born of Northerner and Southerner, enter the Territories on the same terms of equality, and all find there there the protection of equal laws? If the Southerner is disabled from carrying slaves thither, so is the Northerner. If the Virginia slave-*holder* may not introduce his slaves there, neither can the Boston slave-*owner*. No State is excluded from a full, free participation in the benefits of the Territories—no State, no section, no quarter of the globe.

"But, the Northern man may carry his property with him—this the Southern mau is forbidden to do." The great majority of Southern men own just the kinds of property which is owned by Northern men—and these they can carry into the Territories, without let or hindrance. Some slaves are worth a thousand dollars, and two and a half millions of other men, as property, and this kind of property—not being recognised by the common law, being the mere creature of municipal law—they are prohibited from taking with them into the Territories. But, so are Northern men. The prohibition is not limited—it is universal and equal.

Four-fifths of the people of the South are not slaveholders, or interested in the system of slave labor. It cannot be claimed that the restriction is oppressive to them. The few who are slaveholders may experience some inconvenience, from the operation of the restrictive law, but they can dispose of their slaves as they see proper, and then, if they wish, migrate to the Territories and settle there, on precisely an equal footing with emigrants from other sections. Justice requires no more—the principle of Equality is perfectly maintained. The law in itself is just and equal, though, in its operations, owing to peculiar circumstances in the cases of certain States or persons, it may operate somewhat inconveniently.

Suppose polygamy were legal in New England, and illegal in all the other States. Congress, in providing suitable institutions for the Territories of the Union, proposes to prohibit polygamy, but the New England members solemnly protest against the restriction as unjust, unequal, degrading to their section of country. Has not New England poured out her blood and treasure for the acquisition of these Territories? Are they not the common property of the Union? Will you then exclude her from all participation in their advantages? Is not the Mormon State sick of you? It is not to disgrace them—not to treat them as inferior partners, but to allow their citizens the opportunity to settle in the new Territories with their multitudinous wives!

We do not believe the South and West would listen to any such argumentation? The prohibition of polygamy would not be a bar to matrimony. "We establish one law for all," would be the answer: no burden, no restriction is imposed on New England, from which the South and West are exempt. If they cannot carry half a dozen wives to one man with them into the territories, neither can we. Our business is to provide such institutions as shall promote the best interests of all the States, and of the people of the Territories themselves.

To allow slavery to be introduced into the Territories, though not in itself an unequal policy—as all then might have the privilege of so doing—is, in operation, it would work the grossest inequality. Establish slave-labor as the system of a country, and you depress free labor—a conflict springs up between them, which soon terminates in the extinction of the former or exclusion of the latter. What do our tables of foreign immigration show? Slavery is the flaming sword, turning every way, that guards northern soil against the free men who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. What is the spectacle presented in Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Eastern Virginia? Free white men, exiling themselves in crowds from their native homes, to escape the blasting pride and power of slavery. Feudalism never worked greater inequality among classes of freemen, inflicted more grinding oppression on the masses, than slavery works among the white men of the South, and inflicts upon the masses of its freemen. To people the Territories with slaves is to depopulate them of freemen. Allow slavery to spring up in California and New Mexico, and you are guilty of the grossest injustice to the non-slaveholding masses of our citizens in all sections.

"But, such a restriction is an insult to the South!" When the General Government wars against the banking system, and puts down a National Bank, and exacts the payment of its dues in gold and silver, does it offer an insult to those States which afford the greatest encouragement to the credit system? The moral influence of many an act of the Federal Government may be adverse to some State, and injurious to it, but we can see no sense in arraying such acts as insults to the States sustaining such interest or institution. The law, without assigning any reason, on its face, simply prohibits the introduction of slavery into free territory; and the inference is, that the majority who vote for it, deem the introduction best for the interests of the concern. What insult to the South in this? The South must be far gone in insanity, if it denounce the Federal Government as guilty of an outrage

NO NECESSITY OF A PANIC.

We do not yet see any indications from the Southern press, that authorize the apprehension of a speedy end to the Union. That there is a mighty movement among the devotees of party, and the agitation generally, to create a sensation, is quite apparent. Mr. Calhoun and his clique are doubtless anxious to make Southern men believe their honor and rights in peril, and to separate them from all political association with the North, so as to promote his ulterior views respecting a Southern Confederacy, where Slavery shall reign in undisturbed supremacy, and John C. Calhoun be exalted, its grand embodiment. Democratic partisans in the same section, embittered by recent defeat, cut off from all expectation of office, and bent upon embarrassing their opponents, contribute their part to the getting up of a "crisis," which may break up the Whig national organization, and completely cheat that party out of its triumph, by compelling General Taylor to become President of a section, instead of the Union. The Southern Whigs, too, fearful of meeting this combined onset directly, may talk solemnly about the necessity of dissolution, should the worst come to the worst, and *appear* to fall in with the paroxysmal movement, for fear of losing caste. But, after all, our nerves are not much shaken. The Philadelphia *North American*, in a leader we copy on our fourth page, speaks in terrific tones of the consequences of Disunion, and appears willing to appal the South. We do not exactly perceive the necessity of this, for we cannot deem the danger of dissolution imminent; and, if it were, it seems to us wise to take the matter coolly. We have gloried in the Union as much as any citizen of the land, and are strongly attached to it. But there is only one safe rule where a confederation of sovereign States cannot agree, and that is, separation, in all good feeling. When the herdsmen of Lot and Abraham quarrelled, and their interests interfered with each other, the two brethren separated; but, so far as we learn, maintained thereafter the most friendly relations with each other. When Paul and Barnabas found themselves at swords' points, they separated, each going his own way, and thus preserved harmony by division.

If perpetual discord is to poison all the intercourse of North and South, or if their joint partnership is to be prostituted irrevocably to the propagandism of Slavery, or if the South, whenever a measure displeases it, will appeal to arms, and be satisfied with nothing less than absolute submission from all other sections, it seems to us far better that a movement be made in a calm, fraternal manner, for a general Convention of the States, to determine upon the safest and most equitable mode of dissolving their connection, and reorganizing in new combinations. There is no other peaceful and honorable path to the subject. It is one of immense importance, equalled in its magnitude only by the original work of *forming* the present Union. Our fathers subjected their passions and prejudices to the government of reason, when they undertook to educe order out of the chaos of the American States. We, their children, must imitate the benefit of such example, being admonished by their errors, and with increased experience, ought to be able to go manfully, calmly, sensibly, about the work of *re-formation*, if, indeed, it be impossible to live together any longer.

The American People, North and South, are excitable on ordinary occasions, and given to blustering a little; but, when a great occasion presents itself, a great danger impends, a great duty is to be done, their common sense and steadiness triumph. If the South must have a division of the Union, if it is really in earnest upon the subject, then let reasonable men in all sections address themselves to the work. Let there be no helter-skelter operations—no direful prophecies—no maledictions—no crimination or recrimination—no reproaches—but let us come together in General Convention for the last time, divide our possessions, and, if the results be two organizations, slaveholding and non-slaveholding, let God judge between us, and human vengeance sleep. The Free Union would then be exempt from all responsibility for Slavery. Its support and continuance would no longer be given to the system. The Slave Union could no longer reproach their former brethren with bad faith and oppressive legislation. Each might work out its own destiny, undisturbed by clashing interests and prejudices, unembarrassed and unmanned by perpetual and degrading compromises.

We submit these views, not because we wish the Union dissolved, but to show that all parties would do well to look at the subject calmly and in good temper. If the slaveholders are resolved to reject the Union, unless they can rule it, we had better separate. It is folly to suppose that Civilization in the country is absolutely dependent upon one form of political or social organization. We have tried the Union—it has worked admirably in many respects. We, non-slaveholders, would prefer its continuance; but we are far from believing that either ruin or anarchy will necessarily follow its dissolution. It is the blind, unreasoning devotion of the non-slaveholder to the Union which emboldens the slaveholders to the exaction of conditions not to the Union's bond. Let the former give to the winds their fears, show that they value the Union only as a means to certain great ends—liberty, peace, and progress—prove their readiness to dissolve it whenever it shall become inconsistent with these ends, and try, without hesitation, other forms of social existence—and a period would be put to the insolence and declamation about a dissolution by force.

* Omitted by mistake.

THE ANNEXATION OF CUBA.

Rumors have prevailed for some months past, of secret negotiations between our Government and that of Spain for the purchase and annexation of Cuba by the former. The information furnished by the foreign correspondence of the *New York Herald* was positive and reiterated, and the English papers contain intimations of like purport. Recently, Mr. Miller submitted a resolution, calling upon the President to inform the Senate whether such negotiations had been instituted, and, upon opposition by Judge Berrien, that the resolution was rather unusual, the mover withdrew it for the time. Subsequently he again introduced it, and, on the 5th, it was called up in the Senate. It was as follows:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform the Senate whether any negotiations or correspondence have taken place between this Government and the Government of Spain, or between any persons acting under the direction or authority of Government, in relation to the purchase of Cuba by the United States; and to communicate to the Senate copies of such negotiations or correspondence, so far as the same may be communicated consistently with the public interests.

The resolution contains the usual reservation in relation to the public interests. The subject is of vast importance. If there is a scheme on foot for the annexation of Cuba, it ought to be known. Such a plot would be in harmony with the entire policy and spirit of this Administration, and with the aggressive spirit of Slavery-propagandism. Rumors from all quarters have created a strong presumption that it is secretly agitated. To call for the information in the way proposed is fully consistent with the public interests, could do no harm to anybody, except secret conspirators. If such a scheme be on foot, the People of the United States ought to know it, as their best interests would be involved in it; unless, indeed, it be claimed that the leading men of the small class of slaveholders, the only privileged class in this Republic, are alone entitled to State secrets of such importance.

One of this class was on hand to stifle inquiry. Mr. Rusk moved that the resolution be laid on the table, and it was laid on the table by

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Atherton, Berrien, Borland, Bradbury, Bresse, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Fitzgerald, Fitzpatrick, Foote, Houston, Hunter, Johnson of Louisiana, Jones, King, Mason, Rusk, Sebastian, Turney, Yulee—24.

NAYS—Messrs Baldwin, Benton, Clarke, Clayton, Corwin, Davis of Massachusetts, Dayton, Dix, Hale, Hamlin, Metcalfe, Miller, Niles, Pearce, Phelps, Spruance, Underwood, Upham, Westcott—19.

Only three Democrats from the free States voting to give light to the People on this grave subject. The Senators from Michigan and Illinois, the two new Senators from Iowa, Bradbury, and of course Dickinson and Atherton, voted with the slaveholders. Cass remained with them. Mr. Westcott is an eccentric man, and seems out of place among the nays.

It will be seen by our Congressional report that Senator Foote swerved that General Taylor is in favor of the annexation of Cuba, and has so declared himself. We shall know in time—that is, after everything shall have been decided. The Free States have been cajoled into the United States under the treaty with France. The people of our State were induced to yield their assent to a compromise then made, whereby a State admitting Slavery was admitted into the Union, formed out of territory not embraced within the compromises of the Constitution, by the considération that Slavery and involuntary servitude would be forever excluded from the remaining portion of the territory within which Slavery was theretofore sanctioned. They yielded the political advantage of Slave representation, by a portion of the territory, for the moral triumph of establishing freedom throughout the remainder.

Then we were asked to become parties to the extension of Slavery over Territory already free. Their answer may be read in their past history. I believe that it is about, if not entirely, the unanimous decision of the people of this State, that under no circumstances will their assent be given to any notion whereby the institution of Slavery shall be introduced into any part of the Territory of the United States from which it is now excluded.?

We anticipate prompt and energetic action in the Legislature.

☞ The resolutions have passed both Houses.

NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

The following resolutions adopted in the House of Representatives, New Hampshire, were carried through by the Democratic majority. They are mixed up with irrelevant matters, designed, we suppose, to sweeten them to the taste of the Cabinet in Washington. We are glad, however, to learn that the New Hampshire Democrats have pledged themselves to abide by the principles of the Ordinance of 1787. Had the members of the sentence in the second resolve been reversed, so as to read, "while confiding in the opinions of eminent jurists," &c., &c., "we abide by the Ordinance of 1787," there would have been a little more pertinence and force in the declaration:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Dec. 13.

The special order of the day, being the resolutions of Mr. Rix on slavery and the Mexican war, was then taken up. The following are the resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, That we regard the extension of a pure Republican government over a vast expanse of territory as the highest glory resulting of the late war with Mexico, and that we desire that the lustre of its glorious events may never be tarnished by the introduction of Slavery, or any form of oppression into the broad regions it has added to our national domains.

Resolved, That while we abide steadfastly by the principles of the Ordinance of 1787, we feel with hope and confidence upon the opinions of the eminent jurists and statesmen, representing all parties, who declare that slavery, as a mere local institution, grounded upon municipal regulations, now free, without that positive interference of Congress in its behalf, to which, as friends of universal freedom, we can never give our *countenance* or *consent*.

Resolved, That we would forever preserve from the contamination of this great national evil the whole broad area of free soil upon our continent, reserv ing it as an asylum for the poor and oppressed of all lands, who may claim the protection of that flag whose stripes and stars proclaim to the obscus chastisement we have just inflicted upon an insolent foe, and whose stars have just sparkled above the glorious scenes of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo.

On the 27th, the House, after discussion and deliberation, adopted unanimously the following resolutions in regard to Mr. Gott's resolution:

"That we cordially approve of the vote of our Representatives in Congress, in favor of rescission thereof, upon the subject of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and request their concurrence in all such further constitutional legislation as may be necessary to prevent all traffic in slaves therein.

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be directed to furnish to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, copies of these resolutions"

It must be recollected that the "Old Hunker" Democracy, as it is styled, has the ascendency in their Legislature.

VERMONT AND SLAVERY.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously by both branches of the Vermont Legislature, before its adjournment:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That we seek in vain to discover any foundation for human slavery, in the Divine or natural law, or the law of nations; that its origin in all cases may be traced to fraud or physical force, and that all local laws for its continuance or protection have their origin and existence alone in the slaveholders themselves, to justify and perpetuate their usurpation.

Resolved, That Congress possesses, and ought immediately to exercise, the power to prohibit slavery in the Territories of New Mexico and California; and that without such prohibition, and the strong arm of the National Government to enforce its observance, there is great danger that it will obtain a foothold there, not only without the aid of local law, but in defiance thereof, adding a still darker stain upon our national honor, and subjecting the free States to the injustice of a still greater inequality in their representation in Congress.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to exert their efforts to procure the passage of a law forbidding slavery in the District of Columbia, and prohibiting the traffic in slaves between the States.

Resolved, That it is unbecoming the free Legislatures of a free people, to make any declaration that *liberty is inalienable*, to legislate for the general welfare, while their eyes are insulted with the frequent spectacle of men chained, shackled, and driven to market, or confined in pens, awaiting buyers.

And whereas Slavery in the District of Columbia exerts a baleful influence upon the action of Congress, checking the freedom of debate, threatening the freedom of the press, and controlling the Executive department at Washington; therefore,

Resolved, That unless slavery in that District be speedily abolished by the action of Congress, with the assent of the inhabitants, it is the duty of Congress to pass a law removing the seat of Government into the Territory of some free State or other convenient place, eligible to the nation, where the Representatives of the people may be more free to legislate for the general welfare.

POSITION OF INDIANA.

The newspapers, so far as we have seen, contain no correct account of the action of the Indiana Legislature on the subject of Slavery Extension. From authentic documents, handed us by a friend, we are enabled to present the following statement. We subjoin first the report of Mr. Edmundson, from a Committee on the various joint resolutions offered in relation to Slavery Extension:

MR. SPEAKER: The select committee to whom was referred the several resolutions on the subject of Slavery in the Territories of the United States, have had the subject under consideration, and a majority of the committee have directed me to report.

All the resolutions referred to your committee, have for their object—

First. To declare that, by the existing laws, the territories recently acquired from Mexico are now free; and

Secondly. That they ought to remain free. In furtherance of these principles, out of which it becomes proper to instruct our Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to vote for a law providing that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in these Territories. The others declare it to be expedient that Congress should pass a joint resolution, or other act, embodying a declaration of the existing laws on this subject in said Territories.

Your committee are of opinion that it is more expedient to instruct our Senators, and request our Representatives to vote for a declaratory resolution, than for a prohibitory law.

First. Because, while the practical effect of both are the same, they deter slaveholders from carrying their slaves thither, the form and manner of the latter is much more offensive to the South than that of the former, which (latter) un-

MIRTH AND MEDICINE.

POEMS BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES. Boston: W. D. TICKNOR & CO.

If any of our readers (and at times we fear it is the case with all) need amusement, and the wholesome alterative of a hearty laugh, we commend them not to Dr. Holmes the physician, but to Dr. Holmes the scholar, the wit, and the humorist; not to the scientific and professional lectures, but to the scarcely worthy of one who stands at the head of the profession.

It was said of James Smith, of the "Rejected Addresses," that "if he had not been a witty man, he would have been a *great* man." Hood's humor and drollery kept in the back-ground the pathos and beauty of his soberer productions; and Dr. Holmes, we suspect, might have ranked higher, among a large class of readers, than he now does, had he never written his "Ballad of the Oysterman," his "Comet," and his "September Gale." Such Lyrics as "La Grisette," "The Puritan's Vision," and that unique compound of humor and pathos, "The Last Leaf," show that he possesses the power of touching the deeper chords of the heart, and of calling forth tears as well as smiles. What does not the following poem, in its simple picture of the old man, in the last-mentioned poem?

"But now he wakes at the streets,
And he looks at all he meets,
Sad and wan,
And he shakes his head, and said,
That it never was so fed,
Whilst a child he ran.

"How strange it seems with so few
In those days he knew,
Why, but few
Call to mind the roof and tree
Where they used to play with me,
And we were not two!

"The many mantles rust
On the few left to crust,
In their blows;
And the streets he loved to hear
Have been scored for many a year,
And his cronies close."

Dr. Holmes has been likened to Thomas Hood; but there is little in common between them, save the power of combining fancy and sentiment with grotesque drollery and humor. Hood, under all his whims and oddities, conceals the vehement intensity of a reformer. The iron of the world's wrongs has entered into his soul; there is an answering throb in his own heart for every direct or indirect against oppression and bigotry, at times betrays the earnestness of one whose own withers have been wrung. Holmes writes simply for the amusement of himself and his readers; he deals only with the vanity, the foibles, and the minor faults of mankind, good-naturedly and almost sympathizingly suggesting excuses for the folly which he tosses about on the horns of his ridicule. In this respect he differs widely from his fellow-townsman, Russell Lowell, whose keen wit and scathing sarcasm, in the famous "Biglow Papers," and the notes of Parson Wilbur, strike at the great evils of society, and deal with the rank offences of Church and State. Hosea Biglow, in his way, is as earnest a reformer as Wendell Phillips. Mucklewrath, or Obadiah Bind-their-kings-in-chains-and-their-nobles-in-fetters-of-iron. His verse smacks of the old Puritan flavor. Holmes has a gentler mission. His careless genial humor reminds us of James Smith in his Rejected Addresses and "Horace in London." Long may he live to make broader the face of care-worn children generations, as he realizes for himself the truth of the wise man's declaration, that "a merry heart is a continual feast."

J. G. W.

THE PACHECO CASE.

Our readers generally are familiar with the history of this slave claim. We published a good deal on the subject during the last session of Congress. It has been debated with much spirit during this session. On our first page we copy from the Globe a report of the speech of Mr. Wilson, of New Hampshire, in which the constitutional question, respecting property in man, is argued with ability.

The bill was at last passed through the preliminary stages by a strong vote; but Mr. Giddings, who had voted with the majority for the purpose of securing an opportunity to discuss the bill more thoroughly, of which he had been deprived by one of those devices for cutting short debate, so well understood by the House, moved a reconsideration of the vote by which it had been ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

This motion came up last Saturday, when Mr. Giddings delivered a speech of remarkable power, which, as the result showed, produced a strong impression on the House. He then withdrew his motion to reconsider, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed by a vote of 90 to 86.

By the 12th rule of the House, it is made the duty of the Speaker to vote, if his vote given to the minority will make a tie; and the bill or resolution is then lost. Unexpectedly, the duty of deciding this important case devolved upon the Speaker, (Mr. Winthrop.) In attempting to discharge the duty, he had proceeded just far enough to indicate his purpose to vote in the affirmative in the negative, however, not touching the constitutional question, in regard to property in man, when the Clerk, Mr. Mudd, reached him a paper, stating that the vote stood 91 year to 89 nays! This was a mistake of the Clerk, but a very opportune one for the Speaker, to whom time was allowed for deliberation and reconsideration. Several members immediately announced to the Clerk his error on the record, and it was subsequently found that Mr. Mudd was mistaken! So, on Monday morning, the Speaker announced that the Clerk had discovered he was mistaken—the vote standing 89 years, 89 nays! Mr. Farrelly then arose and stated that he had voted in the negative, but his name was not recorded!

BIRTH-DAY SUPPER.

The Whigs of Boston and vicinity will celebrate the Birth-day of Washington, by a Supper, at the Marlboro' Hotel, on Thursday evening, February 22d. Tickets, $2 each, may be had of the Committee of Arrangements.

THE POSITION OF NEW YORK.

After the disorganization of the dominant party in New York, by the power of the anti-Slavery sentiment, the Whigs, who have secured a temporary ascendency, will hardly venture to disregard the demands of this potent sentiment. Tuesday, January 2d, the Legislature of that State met at Albany, and the first business reported is the following:

Mr. Wilkin offered resolutions remonstrating against the admission of Texas to the Territory of New Mexico, and insisting upon New Mexico being protected against Slavery, and instructs the Representatives of the State in Congress to vote for securing Governments for the Territories, and insist on the prohibition of Slavery in the Territory between the Nueces and Rio Grande, as property of the property of the Union; that it should be protected against the unfounded claims of Texas as part of that State, and prohibit the extension of Slavery over it.

"The resolutions also reëndorse the proposition of Mr. Gott in Congress, prohibiting the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Wilkin, Fuller, and others, urged action on the resolutions. Messrs. Bush, Floyd, and Hine, opposed the resolutions. They were finally made the special order of the day for to-morrow."

In the Assembly, so much of the Governor's message as refers to the subject of Slavery extension, was referred to a Select Committee. We copy the essential portion of his remarks on this question:

"The 'Compromises of the Constitution,' as they are familiarly termed, do not of right extend to territory beyond the limits of the original thirteen States. The privilege which they concede may be granted, and has been claimed for any newly acquired Territory. The question now presented, is not one of interference with an existing institution, for the soil is now free. There are no slave-holding laws, no Slavery exists there, nor can it exist there, without either the express or the tacit assent of the old States. It is then a question of the introduction of Slavery into Territory from which it is now excluded, and the consequent political representation of slaves in the Federal Congress, Columbia the new Territory shall be organized into State Governments, and admitted as such into the Confederacy.

"If there be any one subject upon which the people of this State have fully declared their sentiments, it is in their fixed determination to resist the extension of Slavery a great moral principle, and overrides all questions of temporary or of political expediency. None venture to dissent; and in the mere difference of degree in which the sentiment receives utterance, it has proved powerful even to the breaking down of the strong barrier of party organization. This sentiment is one of recent origin with our people. It was this sentiment which, fifty years ago, prompted the abolishment of Slavery in this State. It was this nearly unanimous sentiment of the people which was reflected and received utterance in the voice of our State Legislature, at the period of the Missouri question, on the admission of Missouri into the Union. Slavery not only existed at that time within the limits of Missouri, but was legalized within the whole Territory acquired by the United States under the treaty with France. The people of our State were induced to yield their assent to a compromise then made, whereby a State admitting Slavery was admitted into the Union, formed out of territory not embraced within the compromises of the Constitution, by the consideration that Slavery and involuntary servitude would be forever excluded from the remaining portion of the territory within which Slavery was theretofore sanctioned. They yielded the political advantage of Slave representation, by a portion of the territory, for the moral triumph of establishing freedom throughout the remainder.

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Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That we seek in vain to discover any foundation for human slavery, in the Divine or natural law, or the law of nations; that its origin in all cases may be traced to fraud or physical force, and that all local laws for its continuance or protection have their origin and existence alone in the slaveholders themselves, to justify and perpetuate their usurpation.

Resolved, That Congress possesses, and ought immediately to exercise, the power to prohibit slavery in the Territories of New Mexico and California; and that without such prohibition, and the strong arm of the National Government to enforce its observance, there is great danger that it will obtain a foothold there, not only without the aid of local law, but in defiance thereof, adding a still darker stain upon our national honor, and subjecting the free States to the injustice of a still greater inequality in their representation in Congress.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to exert their efforts to procure the passage of a law forbidding slavery in the District of Columbia, and prohibiting the traffic in slaves between the States.

Resolved, That it is unbecoming the free Legislatures of a free people, to make any declaration that *liberty is inalienable*, to legislate for the general welfare, while their eyes are insulted with the frequent spectacle of men chained, shackled, and driven to market, or confined in pens, awaiting buyers.

And whereas Slavery in the District of Columbia exerts a baleful influence upon the action of Congress, checking the freedom of debate, threatening the freedom of the press, and controlling the Executive department at Washington; therefore,

Resolved, That unless slavery in that District be speedily abolished by the action of Congress, with the assent of the inhabitants, it is the duty of Congress to pass a law removing the seat of Government into the Territory of some free State or other convenient place, eligible to the nation, where the Representatives of the people may be more free to legislate for the general welfare.

POSITION OF INDIANA.

The newspapers, so far as we have seen, contain no correct account of the action of the Indiana Legislature on the subject of Slavery Extension. From authentic documents, handed us by a friend, we are enabled to present the following statement. We subjoin first the report of Mr. Edmundson, from a Committee on the various joint resolutions offered in relation to Slavery Extension:

MR. SPEAKER: The select committee to whom was referred the several resolutions on the subject of Slavery in the Territories of the United States, have had the subject under consideration, and a majority of the committee have directed me to report.

All the resolutions referred to your committee, have for their object—

First. To declare that, by the existing laws, the territories recently acquired from Mexico are now free; and

Secondly. That they ought to remain free. In furtherance of these principles, out of which it becomes proper to instruct our Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to vote for a law providing that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in these Territories. The others declare it to be expedient that Congress should pass a joint resolution, or other act, embodying a declaration of the existing laws on this subject in said Territories.

Your committee are of opinion that it is more expedient to inst

Enough of this. Meny mombers have expressed their indignation at the remarkable misunderetanding of the Clerk as to this vote. First, 90 to 89, then 91 to 89, then 89 to 89, and then one negative vote not recorded! We doubt whether the history of clerkly mistakes in a legislative body furnishes a parallel case.

It is satisfactory to know that tho hill for the paymsnt of this slave, who was not taken for public use, but seized as an enemy, and as an enemy eont out of the country, eleeps.

For the National Era.

OUR HOMESTEAD.

BY MISS PHŒBE CAREY.

Our old hrown homestead reared ite walls,
From the wayside dust aloof,
Where the apple houghs oould almost oast
Their fruitage on its roof:
And the cherry tree eo near it grew,
That when awake I've lain,
In the lonesome nights I've heard the limhs,
As they creaked against the pans:
And those orchard trees, O, those orchard trses!
I have seen my little brothers rocked
In their tops by the summer breeze.

The sweet hriar under the window eill,
Which the early hirds made glad,
And the damask rose hy the garden fence,
Were all the flowere we had.
I've looked at many a flower since then,
Exotics rich and rare,
That to other syes were lovelier,
But not to me so fair;
For those roses bright, O, those roses hright!
I have twined them with my sister's locks,
That are laid in the dust from sight!

We had a well, a deep old well,
Where the spring was never dry,
And the oool drops down from the mossy etones
Were falling constantly:
And there uever was water half so sweet
As that in my little cup,
Drawn up to the curh by the ruds old sweep,
Which my father's hand set up:
And that deep old well, O, that deep old well!
I remember yet the plashing sound
Of the hucket as it fell.

Our homestead had an ample hearth,
Where at night we loved to meet;
There my mother's voice was always kind,
And her smile was always sweet:
And there I've sat on my father's knee,
And watched his thoughtful brow,
With my childish hand in his raven hair—
That hair is silver now!
But that hroad hearth's light, O, that hroad hearth's light!
And my father's look, and my mother's smile,
They are in my heart to-night.

LATE EXTRACTS FROM SOUTHERN PAPERS.

We annex some late extracts from editorials in Southern journals. The sentiments they express are entertained, we presume, by many persons in the slave States, but such is the despotism of slavery over whites as well as blacks, that few dare avow what they feel.

The *Mobile* (Ala.) *Herald*, epeaking of Douglas's bill, says:

"The destiny of California is to be free, and we presume this destiny might as well be fixed now as later. It may save contention in Congress, from which no possible good oan come to the South."

The *Savannah* (Ga.) *Republican*, in referenoe to the petition of the people of New Mexico and California against slavery, remarks:

"But the people of New Mexico and California have already petitioned Congress against the admission of slavery among them. They declare that their old laws prohibit the institution, and that they are unwilling to have it foroed upon them. What will Carolina say to this? The people of the Territories have the right to decide the matter for themselves during their territorial existenoe, according to the doctrine of Mr. Cass, as promulgated in his Nicholson letter. Our brethren over the river supported Mr. Cass in the face of this doctrine, and now that the inhabitants in the Territories have seen proper to act upon it, the people of South Carolina are estopped by their own deed. By their support of Mr. Cass and his Nicholson manifesto, they have sanctioned a principle which excludes ns forever. We warned them again and again that this letter contained a Wilmot Proviso *in disguise*, but a deaf ear was turned us. They are now reaping the fruit of its pernicious doctrine. The pill has been stripped of its coating, and bitterness is upon their lips.

"We shall not at this time express any opinion npon the merits of the New Mexican petition. It is clear to our minds, however, that neither the Democrats in California or anywhere else, oan rightly uttor one word of complaint, even in the event of the passage of the Wilmot Proviso, if it be done in accordance with the wishes of the people of the Territories. They contended in the late canvass, that the question ought to be left to these people; and now that they have been taken at their word, and the matter decided against them, they have no right to say aught against it."

The *Mississippi Free Trader*, of the 12th instant, takes yet broader ground npon the subject of slavery, in a very sensible article upon the subject of "Emigration and Population." Speaking of immigration from the British islands and the continent, this journal says:

"So long as we shall have a country more desirable for the poor to live in, than the one he is born in, on tho other side of the Atlantic, the poor, and all in moderate oircumstances, will continue to come and settle among us. We are not displeased to witness their opportunity to better their condition. We rather rejoioe that there is one green spot on the globe where *most* of the rights of humanity are recognised, and adequately protected for the equal benefit and enjoyment of all men.

"The exception to this universality of privilege cannot long endure the light of partial liberty in this country, and the force of moral power, so omnipotent to expose and put down the wrongs of suffering humanity. Two hundred and fifty thousand men cannot always hold in servile bondage three millions of rational human beings. The elevation of the race may he retarded in its progress, by the obstinacy and mistaken selfishness of the few, who lord it over the many; but the triumph of right and justice over wrong and injustice, is certain at the end. We must soon have a population of one hundred millions of self-governing and happy people."

Undoubtedly this is extraordinary language to he used in Mississippi.

The *Platte* (Mo.) *Argus*, a paper which zealously supported Cass for the Presidency, speaks out in a tone that should shame its half-hearted brethren in Illinois and Indiana:

"Every Democratic member (it says) from the North and West should be instructed by his constituents to press the passage of the Wilmot Proviso, and the different Legislatures should require their Senators, by *positive instructions*, to vote for that measure. Justice, and a sacred regard for *truth*, requires that this course should he pursued, since it is the only one that will answer the purpose. Dreadful diseases sometimes require strong remedies. This is one of them. The Democracy have the power to pass this measure—the Proviso. They owe it to themselves to do it. We trust that the first act of the Missouri Legislature, when it meets this winter, will be the passage of resolutions *instructing* our Senators, and *requesting* our Representatives in Congress to vote for the passage of the Wilmot Proviso, and use all their influence in its favor."

The *Richmond* (Va.) *Whig*, of the 27th December, says:

"For our own part, we are opposed, as much as any other, to the passage of the Wilmot Proviso by Congress; but we hold, that to make that question of which Mr. Buchanan, a Locofoco Secretary of State, no doubt much admired by Mr. Floyd and his party, said in a speech delivered one fortnight before the late Presidential election, "as a practical question, all the excitement which has been raised upon the subject has heen worse than useless," of so much importance as to involve the existence of the Union, is what the people of Virginia are not prepared for."

Again:

"Again we say, we are as much opposed to the Wilmot Proviso as any man; but when we reflect, that the question can never become a practical one, we are far from heing willing to dissolve the Union on account of it. We would keep it entirely separate from the movement in the District of Columbia, which we hold to be really alarming."

THE RESPONSE.

No movement in Congress has excited more general exultation in the non-slaveholding States than the passage of Gott's resolution against the slave trade. The feeling is shared by all parties. There is not a right-minded man in the nation who does not rejoice at the prospect of delivering the nation's capital from the disgrace of being a public slave-mart. Surely, surely, no slaveholder, unless he belong to the Calhoun school, will undertake to support this traffic in Washington. When the old Hunker Democracy of the New Hampshire Legislature declares by solemn resolution its *cordial* approbation of the vote of the representatives of that State for Mr. Gott's resolution, it is a sign of the times not to be mistaken. The civilization of this country can endure this public ignominy no longer.

Another indication of public sentiment may be found in the action of the New York Legislature, and in the following call for a public meeting in Cincinnati, published in the newspapers of that place:

PUBLIC MEETING.—In view of the passage of the following important and most cheering resolution hy the House of Representatives, viz: "*That the Committee for the District of Columbia be instructed to report a bill, as soon as practicable, prohibiting the slave trade in the said District*"—it is deemed important hy all who are in favor of this resolution to hold a general meeting at *College Hall*, on Thursday evening, the 4th of January, inst., at 7 o'clock, to express their high satisfection upon this movement; to encourage our faithful representatives who voted for it; and to express our fervent wishes that such a bill may be reported, and passed into a law by Congress forthwith.

This call is largely signed by gentlemen whom we recognise as the leading men of the city, its foremost merchants and professional men, and mechanics of all parties. It is headed by the Hon. Bellamy Storer, a Taylor elector, and we observe, among other distinguished names, that of Colonel C. H. BROUGH, late of the army in Mexico, editor of the old and widely known Democratic paper, the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Let us see whether the fear of Mr. Calhoun will deter Congress from giving force to the will of an enlightened and Christian people.

We copy the following from a Virginia paper—the *Fellowsville Democrat*, of Preston county, Va., December 29th:

CONGRESSIONAL.—In the House, on the 21st, Hon. Daniel Gott, of New York, moved a resolution, that "the traffic now prosecuted in this Metropolis of the Republic in human beings as chattels is contrary to national justice and the fundamental principle of our political system, and is notoriously a reproach to the country throughout Christendom, and a serious hindrance to the progress of republican liberty among the nations of the earth," which was adopted by the decisive vote of NINETY-EIGHT to *Eighty-Seven*; and the proper committee was thereupon instructed peremptorily to bring in a bill abolishing the slave trade within the District of Columbia.

We predict that the act abolishing slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia will pass, and that not one slave will be liberated by it. The slaves will all be removed, and the South will retain them. Nevertheless, we earnestly hope that, to free the entire white population of the States from the reproach of an enlightened Christendom, the act may pass.

CASE OF DRAYTON AND SEARS.

The Circuit Court, which was to deliver its opinion last Monday in the case of Drayton and Sears, announced that, not yet being prepared, it would postpone the case for six weeks.

ITEMS.

JOSIAH FRENCH, supported by the Free Soil men and Democrats, has been elected Mayor of Lowell. The Whigs have the City Council.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE DANISH WEST INDIES.—The King of Denmark has fully confirmed the proclamation of Governor Van Scholten, giving complete emancipation to all the slaves within the Danish dominions.

MR. CLAY will be returned to the United States Senate if he desire it—so says the Lexington (Ky.) Observer. He is the last man the tribe of little great men among the Whigs in Congress would wish to see. If he come back, Mr. Calhoun will find one impracticable in the way of his Disunion projects. Will Mr. Clay try to compromise the slavery question? He has many reasons for taking the side of human freedom—none for yielding to slaveholding exactions.

SLAVE POPULATION.—The proportion of slaves in the United States to the white population has been as presented in the following table:

In 1800, 1 slave to 5, and one-fifth white.
In 1810, 1 slave to 5, and five-sevenths white.
In 1820, 1 slave to 6, and one-twelfth white.
In 1830, 1 slave to 6, and two-eighths white.
In 1840, 1 slave to 6, and seven-eighths white.

It will he seen that the recession of the slave population, in relative proportion, is slow, but unvarying in its course.—*Richmond Southerner.*

Yes; taking the population of the *whole country* into the estimate. But if the calculation be restricted to the South, the result will be different.

REV. B. P. AYDELOT, D. D., formerly President of Woodward College, Cincinnati, has accepted the unanimous call made by the Wardens and Vestry of Trinity Church, Cincinnati, to the Rectorship of that church.

The *National Era* gives the yeas and nays, so far as the Representatives from the free States are concerned, on the motion to grant leave to Dr. Palfrey to introduce a bill to repeal all acts of Congress establishing or maintaining slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, as follows.

	Yeas.	Nays.	Absent.
Whigs - - -	49	7	23
Democrats - -	21	15	22
	70	22	45

The Era says, "the question was taken on the motion to grant leave to introduce the bill, and it was decided in the *negative*." Seventy to twenty-two—how can that be?—*Herkimer Freeman.*

Easily enough. The memhers from the South voted *nay*, and their nays added to the 22 from the free States decided the question in the negative.

MAJOR CASS, son of the General, has been appointed Chargé d'Affaires to the Papal States.

GENERAL JACKSON MORTON has been elected United States Senator from Florida, in the place of Mr. Westcott. Morton is a Whig, though he was not the caucus candidate. So the fervent zeal of Senator Westcott in behalf of the "peculiar institution" has not saved him.

S. M. BOOTH, editor of the Wisconsin Free Democrat, has issued proposals for a new Free Soil daily, which was to commence on the 1st of January. Mr. Booth is a vigorous writer and an industrious editor.

THE WASHINGTON GLOBE is an invaluable paper for Congressional reports, being the only journal now that contains *full* reports of the proceedings and debates in both Houses.

MRS. SWISSHELM, in commencing a new volume of the Pittsburg Saturday Visiter, announces her purpose to make the Visiter principally a literary paper, leaving the field of politics to other hands. Of course, it will be Anti-Slavery—it can be nothing else. The editor's independence, strong sense of justice, and warm sympathies, will never suffer her to be neutral on any questions involving the interests of Humanity.

REGISTER OF SEAMEN.—The following table, communicated to the Senate from the office of the Secretary of State, shows the number of seamen registered in the several ports of the United States during the year ending September 30th, 1848:

States.	Native.	Naturalized.	Total.
Maine - -	1,134	12	1,146
New Hampshire -	69	3	72
Massachusetts -	3,724	58	3,782
Rhode Island -	304	3	307
Connecticut -	44	–	44
New York - -	1,428	–	1,428
Delaware - -	21	–	21
Maryland - -	464	15	479
Dist. of Columbia	6	–	6
Virginia - -	426	–	426
North Carolina -	41	–	41
Georgia - -	85	–	85
Louisiana - -	399	–	399
Florida - -	14	1	15
	8,159	92	8,251

Six thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine at Northern, and one thousand four hundred and seventy-two at Southern ports, and nearly one-half of the whole number registered in Massachusetts.

GENERAL TAYLOR has resigned his commission in the United States army.

MR. METCALFE, of Kentucky, now occupying a seat in the United States Senate by the appointment of the Executive, has been elected by the Legislature of Kentucky to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Crittenden, which will terminate on the 4th of March next. Henry Clay is talked of as his successor.

SPECIAL ELECTION IN MASSACHUSETTS.—The special election in four districts in Massachusetts, held January 1st, has resulted in the reëlection of D. P. King, in the second district, and the election of Orin Fowler in the ninth—both Whigs; and in the election of Charles Allen, Free Soil candidate, over Charles Hudson, Whig, in the fifth. Mr. Palfrey leads all his competitors, failing of an election by about 88 votes. He will he returned, we presume, next time. Judge Allen is one of the most distinguished citizens of Massachusetts, and will do honor to his State in Congress. Mr. Hudson, the present incumbent, in whose place he is elected, is an excellent man, and owes his defeat to but one cause—his connection with the Taylor party. The vote against him is a protest against that party.

PENNSYLVANIA.—On the 22d ballot, W. F. Packer, a Democrat, was elected, on the 5th, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Pennsylvania. The Natives supported him.

NEW YORK.—The Legislature of New York met last Tuesday week, at Albany. Amos K. Hadley was elected Speaker of the House. The same day the Governor sent in his message:

From this document we learn that the credit of the State is in excellent condition. The public debt amounts to $23,822,304. The revenue for the fiscal year amounts to $3,833,959—all but $629,889 of which is derived from the canals. The outgoes and expenditures of the treasury (the necessery expenses of the Government being $200,000) were abont half a million less, and this balance is applicable to the Erie canal enlargements, &c. The canal tolls were $200,000 less this year than in 1847, when the unusual exportation of produce increased them.

A State Agricultural School is recommended, for the purpose of agricultural science; also, Boards of Supervisors to relieve the Legislature of much local business; also, a modification of the criminal code, with a view to reliance rather on certainty than severity of punishment.

The school districts reported during the year were 10,621; number of children taught, 775,723, being an increase of 27,336. Money paid for teachers' wages, $639,008; paid on rate bills for teachers' wages, $466,674—total, $1,105,682. Amount expended for district libraries, $81,624.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH ENGLAND.—The Union contains the following information respecting the late postal arrangements with Great Britain:

"The treaty arrangements for the postage of letters transmitted by the steamers has been received by the Europa. We understand the following to be the rates of postage:

"Sea-postage 16 cents, paid to the vessel performing the service.

"English inland postage on letters to or from the United States, 1½*d*., or 3 cents.

"Inland postage of the United States on letters to or from England, 5 cents.

"So that a letter from any part of England to any part of the United States, or *vice versa*, will cost 24 cents—pre-payment or not, at the option of the sender; but if pre-payment is made, it must be for the whole.

"Newspapers will be sent in the steamers of either country at a charge not exceeding 2 cents, to be pre-paid.

"Pamphlets, periodicals, &c., will be charged for each, not exceeding 2 ounces, 1 penny, or 2 cents; over 2 and not exceeding 3 ounces, 6*d*., or 12 cents; over 3 and not exceeding 4 ounces, 8*d*., or 16 cents; for all exceeding 4 ounces, 2*d*., or 4 cents, for each additional ounce or fraction.

"Closed mails may be sent through the United States to the North American provinces, accompanied by an agent, at 10 cents the ounce; and 25 per cent. additional for counting by the ounce, instead of the single letter.

"Closed mails of the United States may be sent through the Canadas, or the United Kingdom, upon paying, by the ounce, two rates of the inland postage, and 25 per cent. as above.

"These are the material provisions of the arrangement which has been lately entered into with the British Government."

☞ SIR-EE.—The most emphatic use we have ever known of the word *Sir-ee*, occurs in some stanzas forwarded to us by one of our subscribers.

"Shall iron-heeled oppression grind
"The soul, the hody, and the mind;
"Forge chains and fetters for the free?
"Justice answers, no, *Sir-ee*."

And then he winds up—

"Shall Free Soil hurst the Senate door,
"And plant his foot firm on the floor,
"The ballot wield till traitors flee?
"The People answer, yes, *Sir-ee*."

VIRGINIA ABOUT TO TAKE THE FIELD.—Mr. Floyd, Governor elect of Virginia, has reported from the select committee in the Legislature, a series of resolutions on the Wilmot Proviso, affirming the following propositions:

1. The want of the constitutional power of the General Government to prohibit slavery in the public territories, or in any other manner to abridge the rights of the slaveholder, is denied.

2. It is declared that the State of Virginia will not think of submission to a law of Congress attempting the exercise of such a power, but will resist the same "to the last extremity, and by every means which she can command."

3. In case of the passage by Congress of the Wilmot Proviso, or any kindred measure, the Governor is authorized to convene the Legislature in extra session, to consider the act, and "the mode and measure of redress."

The Whig papers think the resolutions too violent. There can be no doubt that the Democrats in the South, if Democrats they can be called, are making a mere party hobby of the Slavery agitation.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The *Boston Atlas* of yesterday has the following returns of the late election for Congressmen:

SECOND DISTRICT.

November.—King, (W.,) 6,278; Rantoul, (D.,) 3,453; Stetson, (F. S.,) 4,023.
January.—King, (W.,) 4,252; Rantoul, (D.,) 1,584; Newhall, (F. S.,) 1,843.

Linfield to hear from, which, in November, gave 55 majority against King. Mr. K.'s majority in the district will be about 800.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

November.—Thompson, (W.,) 5,379; Robinson, (D.,) 3,302; Palfrey, (F. S.,) 5,519.
January.—Thompson, (W.,) 3,105; Robinson, (D.,) 1,532; Palfrey, (F. S.,) 4,549.

Majority against Palfrey, 88; do. in November, 3,162; gain, 3,074.

NINTH DISTRICT.

November.—Fowler, (W.,) 5,170; Hooper, (D.,) 2,413; Morton, (F. S.,) 3,575.
January.—Fowler, (W.,) 3,749; Hooper, (D.,) 1,414; Morton, (F. S.,) 2,130.

Majority for Fowler, 225.

BOSTON, JANUARY 3.—*Massachusetts Legislature, Organization of Houses.*—The Legislature met today, and were duly organized by the election of Mr. Bell, of Boston, as President of the Senate, and the reëlection of Mr. Crowninshield, the former Speaker of the House.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Nathaniel S. Berry has been nominated for Governor hy the Van Buren party in New Hampshire.

Amos Tuck has been renominated for Congress by the same party, in District No. 1. Charles H. Peaslee has been nominated for Congress by the Democratic Convention of District No. 2, by a unanimous vote.

The Legislature has voted to adjourn on Thursday, January 4.

THE POPULATION OF NEW YORK.—Mr. Valentine, in his forthcoming Manual of the Corporation of New York, states that in the year 1712 the entire population of the city, as shown by the official census, was 5,840. In 1731 it had reached 8,622, and now it cannot be much less than 420,000.

NEW ORLEANS, JANUARY 4.—The cholera is still raging in our city. During the last twenty-four hours there have been altogether one hundred and ninety-five deaths, of which one hundred and forty were from Asiatic cholera.

The disease was mostly confined to the lower and more dissolute classes. The weather is disagreeable and rain is now falling.

NEW ORLEANS, JANUARY 5.—The cholera is decreasing. The whole number of deaths during the last forty-eight hours is 131, of which 77 were of the cholera. The weather fine, and the citizens returning. The Taylor ball is postponed until the 25th of January.

THE CHOLERA IN NEW YORK.—The Health Commissioner of New York on Thursday reported that no new case or death by cholera has occurred at the marine hospital since the previous report; nor has there been a case in New York city since the 20th December.

CINCINNATI, JANUARY 3—9, P. M.—The cases and deaths by cholera in this city have been mostly confined to strangers landed here by the steamboats. The reports of the prevalence of the cholera on board the steamboats are all fully confirmed.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Extract of a Letter dated New Haven, Conn., December 27, 1848.—Your paper, as I conceive, occupies precisely the proper point of attack. We should never forget that this evil which they are suffering under is not of their own creating; that it was handed down hy their fathers; that they have lived and hreathed in its atmosphere, and that we ourselves, in their places, would experience the same unwillingness in opening our eyes. We ought therefore to appear to them not as relentless judges, hut as sympathizing countrymen, resolved to have no share in what we consider a great system of wrong, and desirous to overthrow that system, hut showing at the same time that the difficulties of their position are appreciated by us.

Lahaska, Pa., December 27, 1848—The principles of freedom are making steady progress. In 1840, the Liberty party polled 11 votes in the county—6 of them were in my own district. In 1844, we raised to 27—11 of these were in my own district. Sometimes I have voted entirely alone for State officers. We had no county organization this year. The Free Soil vote is 163. I confidently expected it would have heen double that number. Both the old parties advocated the election of their candidates on Free Soil ground, each contending that theirs was safer than the other on this question. The old parties in our State are nearly halanced, which influenced many voters.

West Alexander, Pa., December 28, 1848.—This morning it was suggested to me that it would he well to inform you that there was a meeting of Whigs held here last summer, at which Mr. Pitts, of Virginia, made use of the following language in his speech in favor of General Taylor: "General Taylor is pledged not to veto the Wilmot Proviso. I am a Virginian. I was hrought up among slaves. I am now a slaveholder, hut I would rather lose that arm at the shoulder (holding out his right arm) than give one foot of territory now free to slavery." Mr. Pitts is now a delegate at Richmond from Ohio county, is a man of fine talents and a thrilling orator. The speech was heard hy hundreds; and, if you put the above quotation in type, I wish you to send him the paper containing it. Yours, in haste,

SAMUEL W. KEENAN.

Emmetsburg, Md.—The friends of the slave in this region have much to encourage them; light is hreaking in on every side; hut they have many hindrances, and none more prominent than the ministers of the Gospel. The Methodist Episcopal clergy take the lead in this husiness, and the German Reformed preachers come next. Those men are generally from the North, and some of them claim to he anti-slavery men. I cannot express the cordial contempt I entertain for such men. It was remarked to me, not many days since, that Friend Grier is the only man in Western Maryland that speaks from the pulpit against slavery. Yours, truly.

Lake, Washington Co., N. Y., December 27.—In the postage reform, *we* of the *common people*, and we who are laboring for the enlightenment of the masses, are anxious that the postage should he reduced, not only on the *large papers*, hut more especially on the small half and quarter sheet papers, which are *doing much*, and *would do more*, to instruct the rising generation and the masses of society, on Sabbath Schools, Temperance, Missions, &c., were the postage on them proportionate If reduced to one-half or one-fourth of a cent each, vast quantities of them would obtain circulation hy mail, and fall like *fertilizing dew* upon the opening minds of the American people, and aid them onward in every good work. Please *whisper it* to Congress. I am yours, in Freedom's cause.

Cambridge, Md., December 29, 1848.—It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the subject of Emancipation is acquiring fresh advocates here every day, and I feel sure the period is not far distant when the people of Maryland will demand some legislative provision for prospective emancipation. I am an attentive reader of the Era, which I get from the "Chronicle" office here, and I am rejoiced that human freedom has such a fearless and able advocate in the District.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, JANAURY 3, 1849.

SENATE.

Mr. Dix presented a memorial from Samuel L. Gouverneur, son-in-law and executor of James Monroe, fifth President of the United States, asking the aid of Government in the publication of his manuscript papers; which was referred to the Committee on the Library.

Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, introduced a bill giving to each officer, non-commissioned officer, musician, and private, of the volunteer service, in the war with Mexico, three months' extra pay for each term of enlistment.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill for ascertaining claims and titles of lands in California and New Mexico, to grant donation rights, and to provide for the survey of lands therein, but had not proceeded far, when they went into secret session, and so continued until the adjournment.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The only business of interest was the reading of a message from the President of the United States, in answer to the resolution of the 18th of December, 1848, requesting information "under what law or provision of the Constitution, or by what other authority," the Secretary of the Treasury, with the "sanction and approval" of the President, established "a tariff of duties in the ports of the Mexican Republic" "during the war with Mexico," and "by what legal, constitutional, or other authority," the "revenue thus derived" was appropriated to "the support of the army in Mexico."

The message says, the resolution states that the Secretary of the Treasury "established a tariff of duties in the ports of the Mexican Republic." The contributions collected in this mode were not established by the Secretary of the Treasury, but by a military order issued by the President through the War and Navy Departments.

The President then proceeds to quote from his several messages to Congress, relating to the war with Mexico, in which he justifies the order alluded to, and shows its necessity and propriety. With the view, he cites various points of national law to show that a nation carrying on a just war has a perfect right to make the enemy feel the consequences and evils of the war, by making her pay as much as possible of the expenses of the war. With this view, the levy of contributions had been substituted for the custom of pillaging the open country and defenceless places.

The message concludes as follows:

"In the late war with Mexico, it is confidently believed that the levy of contributions, and the seizure of the sources of public revenue, upon which the enemy relied to enable him to continue the war, essentially contributed to hasten peace. By those means the Government and the people of Mexico were made to feel the pressure of the war, and to realize that if it was protracted, its burdens and inconveniences must be borne by themselves.

"Notwithstanding the great success of our arms, it may well be doubted whether an honorable peace would yet have been obtained, but for the very contributions which were exacted."

The message having been read, and ordered to be printed,

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1848.

SENATE.

Mr. Cameron presented numerous petitions from citizens of Pennsylvania, praying a modification of the tariff of 1846.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of private bills, and so continued until the hour of adjournment.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No business of general interest was transacted, and, at 2 o'clock, the House adjourned, to enable the members to attend the funeral of Daniel Gold, late one of the clerks of the House.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1848.

SENATE.

Mr. Hannegan presented a petition, signed by colored residents in Indiana and the neighboring States, praying that Government vessels going to the coast of Africa may take as many colored emigrants to Liberia as will not interfere with the designs of the Government. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The following resolution, submitted by Mr. Miller on the 18th December last, was taken up:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform the Senate whether any, and what, negotiations or correspondence have taken place between this Government and the Government of Spain, or between any persons acting under the direction or authority of either Government, in relation to the purchase of Cuba by the United States; and that he communicate to the Senate copies of such negotiations or correspondence, so far as the same may be communicated consistently with the public interest.

Mr. M. submitted a few remarks relative to the propriety of adopting the resolution in open session, and referred to the negotiations with Mexico in relation to Texas, and with Great Britain in reference to Oregon, as precedents. He considered the subject-matter of the resolution to be of no ordinary character. This matter of purchasing of foreign nations, annexing people and territories, was not of the ordinary character of negotiations between nation and nation. He desired to offer the resolution for the purpose of informing the people of this country if any negotiations of this kind are going on between this Government and Spain. His impression was, that if any such negotiations are in progress, the country ought to be informed of the fact before they are concluded.

Mr. Rusk desired to know of the Senator from New Jersey, whether he really had any suspicion that anything of the kind was going on?

Mr. Miller said he had no hesitation in avowing such suspicions. Such, at all events, was the very general impression throughout the country; and, whether it was a well-founded impression or not, the truth should be known. He therefore had offered the resolution with a view of quieting the public mind.

Mr. Foote inquired whether the Senator from New Jersey was prepared to take an attitude hostile to the annexation of Cuba?

Mr. Miller had no hesitation in saying that he would oppose such annexation at all times, under all circumstances, and in all phases.

Mr. Foote remarked that, according to all the rumors afloat, the President elect had declared himself in favor of the annexation of Cuba. In less than four months, therefore, he feared the Senator from New Jersey would find himself in a very awkward predicament. [Laughter.]

Mr. Rusk and Mr. Dickinson both moved that the resolution be laid upon the table; which was agreed to—yeas 24, nays 19—as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Atherton, Berrien, Borland, Bradbury, Breese, Dickinson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Douglas, Downs, Felch, Fitzgerald, Fitzpatrick, Foote, Houston, Hunter, Johnson of Louisiana, Jones, King, Mason, Rusk, Sebastian, Turney, and Yulee—24.

NAYS—Messrs. Baldwin, Benton, Clarke, Clayton, Corwin, Davis of Massachusetts, Dayton, Dix, Hale, Hamlin, Metcalfe, Miller, Niles, Pearce, Phelps, Spruance, Underwood, Upham, and Westcott—19.

The Senate then, after the consideration of Executive business, adjourned to Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House, having refused to go into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar, proceeded to the consideration of the bill to provide a tribunal for the settlement of claims against the United States; and, after debate, without taking any action,

The House adjourned.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1849.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

PROPERTY IN SLAVES.

The first business in order, being the pending motion, made by Mr. Giddings, for a reconsideration of the vote upon the engrossment of the bill to pay the heirs of Antonio Pacheco $1,000, as the value of a slave transported to the West with the Seminole Indians—

Mr. Giddings proceeded to address the House, having first declined to give way for a motion by Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, that the House should consider the bill to establish a Board for the settlement of private claims.

[Mr. G.'s remarks will be published in full in our next number.]

The previous question, having been moved upon the motion to reconsider, was then seconded, and the main question ordered to be now put.

Mr. Giddings, with a view to save the time of the House, withdrew his motion, and the question accordingly recurred upon the passage of the bill.

Upon this question, Mr. Dickey demanded the yeas and nays, which were ordered; and the question being taken—

The Speaker announced the vote—yeas 90, nays 89.

[The twelfth rule of the House provides, "that in all cases of election by the House, the Speaker shall vote; in other cases he shall not vote, unless the House be equally divided, or unless his vote, if given to the minority, will make the division equal; and in case of such equal division, the question shall be lost.]

The Speaker, proceeding to discharge the duty thus imposed upon him, said:

A case has occurred in which, under the rule of the House, it is the duty of the Speaker to vote. The Speaker regrets that in this, as in many other cases, he has been deprived of the opportunity of listening to the full discussion of the question, having heard no speech except that which has been made this morning, the debate having taken place mainly in Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

The Speaker also has had little opportunity, if any, to turn his attention to the principles or the facts involved in this case. He cannot shrink, however, from giving his vote. But it is a well-admitted Parliamentary principle, laid down in the books, that where the Speaker has any doubt in relation to a question, his vote shall be given in such a way as not finally to conclude it. It shall be given in such a way that the consideration of the question may be again open to the House, if the House, under any circumstances, shall choose to reconsider it.

The Speaker takes the opportunity to say, that he does not concur in full with either of the principles which have been maintained on both sides of the House. So far as the circumstances of the case have come to his knowledge, he doubts exceedingly whether the question of property in slaves is involved. And it has been to him a matter of great doubt, from such part of the arguments as he has heard———

At this point of his remarks, the Speaker was interrupted by the Clerk, who showed him a paper containing the state of the vote.

The Speaker said the Clerk was mistaken in the vote. The vote stands—ninety-one in the affirmative, eighty-nine in the negative.

So the bill was declared to be passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Barrow, Birdsall, Bocock, Bowlin, Boyd, Boyden, Brady, Briggs, Brodhead, William G. Brown, Charles Brown, Albert G. Brown, Burt, Butler, Cabell, Chapman, Chase, Clapp, Franklin Clark, Beverly L. Clarke, Clingman, Williamson R. W. Cobb, Cocke, Crisfield, Crozier, Daniel, Donnell, Garnett Duncan, Dunn, Featherston, Ficklin, Flournoy, French, Fulton, Gaines, Gayle, Goggin, Green, Hammons, Harmanson, Harris, Hill, Hilliard, Isaac E. Holmes, George S. Houston, John W. Houston, Inge, Iverson, Jameson, Andrew Johnson, Robert W. Johnson, George W. Jones, Kaufman, La Sere, Leffler, Levin, Ligon, Lumpkin, McDowell, McKay, McLane, Job Mann, Meade, Morehead, Moree, Outlaw, Peyton, Phelps, Preston, Richardson, Richey, Rose, Shepperd, Stanton, Stephens, Taylor, Thibodeaux, Thomas, James Thompson, Jacob Thompson, Richard W. Thompson, John B. Thompson, Tompkins, Toombs, Venable, Wallace, Wiley, Williams, and Woodward.

NAYS—Messrs. Abbott, Belcher, Bingham, Blackmar, Canby, Cathcart, Collamer, Collins, Conger, Cranston, Crowell, Darling, Dickey, Dixon, Duer, Eckert, Edwards, Embree, Nathan Evans, Faran, Fisher, Freedley, Fries, Giddings, Gott, Greeley, Gregory, Grinnell, N. K. Hall, James G. Hampton, Moses Hampton, Henley, Henry, Elias B. Holmes, Hubbard, Hudson, Jenkins, James H. Johnson, Kellogg, Kennon, Daniel P. King, Lahm, William T. Lawrence, Sidney, Lawrence, Lincoln, Lord, McClelland, McIlvaine, Horace Mann, Marsh, Marvin, Miller, Morris, Mullin, Nelson, Nes, Newell, Palfrey, Peaslee, Peck, Petrie, Pettit, Pollock, Putnam, Robinson, Rockhill, Julius Rockwell, John A. Rockwell, Root, Rumsey, St. John, Sawyer, Sherrill, Silvester, Smart, Caleb B. Smith, Truman Smith, Starkweather, Charles E. Stuart, Strohm, William Thompson, Thurston, Tuck, Van Dyke, Vinton, Warren, Wentworth, White, and Wilson.

Mr. Burt moved a reconsideration of the vote just taken, and that the motion be laid upon the table; and also moved, that before the vote be taken, there should be a call of the House.

Mr. Palfrey appealed to the gentleman from South Carolina to allow him the floor a moment, but Mr. Burt peremptorily declined.

Mr. Wentworth demanded the yeas and nays upon the motion for a call of the House, and being ordered and taken, the result was, yeas 78, nays 105. So the call was refused.

Mr. Burt, with a view, as he said, to save the time of the House, withdrew his motion for reconsideration.

Mr. Cocke renewed the motion, and moved that it be laid on the table.

Mr. Palfrey moved a call of the House, when Mr. Cocke withdrew his motion for reconsideration; and, after some conversation upon points of order, the whole subject was dropped, and the bill was considered *passed*.

The House then went into Committee on the bill providing a Board for the adjustment of private claims; and, after the presentation of amendments, the Committee rose again.

THE SLAVE CASE AGAIN.

Mr. Wentworth rose (he said) to a privileged question, and said that a mistake had been discovered at the Clerk's desk, in the vote upon the passage of the bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Antonio Pacheco. He asked that the Journal might be corrected.

The Speaker stated that corrections of the Journal would be in order on Monday morning, after the reading of the Journal.

Mr. Wentworth asked if it would not be in order now to make a correction in the vote?

The Speaker replied that it would.

On motion of Mr. Stephens,

The House adjourned.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1848.

SENATE.

Mr. Hale presented a large number of petitions, numerously signed by females residing in different parts of the country, praying Congress to devise measures for the prevention of the extension of slavery, for the withdrawing the support of the slave trade by the American flag and American laws, and for the abolition of slavery wherever Congress has jurisdiction over the subject.

Mr. H. moved that the petitions be referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, with instructions to report a bill abolishing the slave trade in the District, and signified his desire to say a word in support of his motion.

Mr. King moved that the motion to receive the petitions be laid upon the table.

Mr. Hale. I do not yield the floor.

Mr. King insisted that the motion to receive the petitions was the only one before the Senate, and that it was in order to move that the motion to receive be laid upon the table.

Mr. Hale said he would maintain the floor until ruled out of order by the Chair.

Mr. Westcott asked the Senator from New Hampshire to yield the floor.

Mr. Hale declined.

Mr. Westcott then called the gentleman to order.

Mr. Hale awaited the ruling of the Presiding Officer.

The Vice President. By the established rule and practice of the Senate, the motion to receive must be first disposed of, and the motion to lay *that* on the table is not debatable.

Mr. Hale said that such was not the practice during the last session. If he recollected rightly, a debate extending over several days, occurred during last session, upon a motion to receive.

Mr. King. The question is, "Shall the petition be received?" and the Senator cannot be in order in discussing the question involved, until the Senate has decided to *receive* the petition.

The Vice President repeated his decision, and put the question upon the motion to lay the motion to receive upon the table.

Mr. Hale demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered, and, being taken, resulted—yeas 25, nays 16—as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Atherton, Bell, Benton, Berrien, Borland, Butler, Clayton, Davis of Mississippi, Dickinson, Downs, Fitzgerald, Fitzpatrick, Foote, Houston, Hunter, Johnson of Louisiana, King, Metcalfe, Pearce, Rusk, Sturgeon, Turney, Underwood, and Westcott—25.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Baldwin, Bradbury, Bright, Cameron, Corwin, Dayton, Dix, Felch, Hale, Hamlin, Miller, Niles, Spruance, Upham, and Walker—16.

So the motion to receive the petition was laid upon the table.

SWORD TO THE FRIENDS OF MAJOR RINGGOLD.

Mr. Hale asked and obtained leave to introduce a joint resolution providing for the presentation of a sword to the nearest male relative of the late Major Ringgold.

Mr. H. referred to his well-known course heretofore upon all subjects of this character, and said that he would not be able to vote for the resolution. In view, however, of the several acts passed giving thanks to the living, it had been thought proper that some token of respect was due to the memory of the dead, and, out of respect to the feelings of the friends of Major Ringgold, he had consented to offer this resolution.

The resolution was then read twice, and referred.

Mr. Douglas, from the Committee on Territories, reported back the bill to establish the Territorial Government of Minesota, with amendments; which bill was made the special order for Wednesday week.

RECIPROCAL FREE TRADE.

On motion by Mr. Dix, the prior orders were postponed, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the "bill to admit certain articles of the growth or production of Canada into the United States free of duty, upon condition that the like articles of the growth or produce of the United States are admitted into Canada free of duty;" and, after debate by Messrs. Dix, Pearce, Niles, Dayton, Hunter, Douglas, Phelps, Westcott, Downs, and Metcalfe, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

PROPERTY IN SLAVES.

Immediately after the reading of the Journal,

The Speaker said: The House will remember that the vote on the passage of the bill for the relief of the heirs of Antonio Pacheco, was originally made up by the Clerk, yeas 90, nays 89; and this record having been handed to the Speaker, and by him announced to the House, the Speaker proceeded to make some remarks upon the bill, preparatory to giving the vote contemplated in such cases by the rules of the House. While in the act of explanation, the Speaker was interrupted by the Clerk, who stated that on a more careful count, the vote was found to be—yeas 91, nays 89. The intervention of the Speaker was therefore no longer allowable, and the bill was declared to have passed the House.

The Chair takes the earliest opportunity to state to the House, this morning, that, upon a re-examination of the yeas and nays, the Clerk has ascertained that an error was still made in the announcement of the vote on Saturday. The vote actually stood—yeas 89, nays 89. The correction will now, accordingly, be made in the Journal; and a case is immediately presented, agreeably to the 12th rule of the House, for the interposition of the Speaker's vote.

At this stage of the proceedings the Speaker was interrupted by

Mr. Farrelly, who rose and called for a further correction of the Journal, stating that he voted in the negative on Saturday last, and his vote appeared not to have been recorded.

The Speaker decided that it was the right of the gentleman from Pennsylvania to have his vote recorded, if he voted on Saturday last.

And the correction was accordingly made.

The vote was then finally announced—yeas 89, nays 90.

The Speaker stated that he came into the House this morning with the full expectation of giving his vote upon this bill, and prepared to give his reasons for the vote. But, as the question now stood, although it might be in his power to vote agreeably to the letter of the 12th rule, it was, in his opinion, not within the contemplation or intention of the rule that he should vote. The rule contemplated that the Speaker should be allowed to vote whenever he could make a difference in the result—wherever his vote would either pass or prevent the passage of the proposition before the House. Under present circumstances, the Speaker's vote could not in any way affect the decision of the House. The bill was already lost by the vote as it stood. A vote against the bill would only increase the majority by which it was defeated; while a vote in favor of the bill would only make a tie, and the bill would still be lost. The Speaker, therefore, did not consider himself called upon to give any vote on the subject.

FUGITIVE SLAVES.

Mr. Meade moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of enabling him to offer the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas it is the duty of the Congress of the United States to enact all laws necessary to enforce such provisions of the Constitution as were intended to protect the citizens of the several States in their rights of property; and past experience has proved that laws should be passed by Congress to enforce the second section of the fourth article of the Constitution, which requires that persons held to labor in one State, escaping into another, shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such labor may he due: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is hereby instructed to report a bill to this House, providing effectually for the apprehension and delivery of fugitives from labor who have escaped or may hereafter escape from one State into another.

The question on the motion to suspend the rules was lost—yeas 78, nays 90.

After the consideration of some further business of no general interest,

The House adjourned.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1849.

SENATE.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR COLONIZATION.

Mr. Underwood presented a petition of citizens of Kentucky, praying Congress to make appropriation for the removal of manumitted slaves to Liberia; which he asked to have received, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to inquire and report whether Congress possesses the constitutional power to appropriate money for the removal of free people of color who may choose to emigrate, and slaves who may hereafter be emancipated for that purpose, to the Republic of Liberia or elsewhere; and if, in the opinion of the Committee, Congress possesses the power, whether it is expedient and proper to make such appropriations.

Mr. Underwood was proceeding to remark upon his motion, when

Mr. Hale called him to order.

The Vice President. The Senator from New Hampshire will state his point of order.

Mr. Hale recounted the proceedings of yesterday upon the motion made by him for the reference of anti-slavery petitions, with instructions. The only difference he could see between that case and the present was, that the papers now presented were in support of slavery, and those which he desired to present were opposed to that institution. His question of order then was, whether the rule applied to him on yesterday operated two ways—preventing the admission of papers opposed to slavery, and admitting those that related to measures for its support.

The Vice President stated that the gentleman from New Hampshire was prevented from making his remarks on yesterday, by the interposition of a motion by the Senator from Alabama, [Mr. King,] to lay the motion for reception upon the table; which motion (to lay on the table) was not debatable.

Mr. Underwood then resumed his remarks, stating his reasons for proposing the instructions stated to the Committee.

Mr. Hale objected to the reception of the petition, and moved that it be laid upon the table; upon which motion he demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Underwood suggested that the motion to lie had been made too late.

The Vice President ruled the motion in order, and proceeded to put the question.

The yeas and nays having heen ordered, were taken, and resulted—yeas 10, nays 35—as follows.

YEAS—Messrs. Butler, Davis of Mississippi, Downs, Foote, Hunter, Johnson of Georgia, King, Mason, Westcott, Yulee—10.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Atchison, Atherton, Baldwin, Bell, Benton, Berrien, Bradbury, Bright, Calhoun, Cameron, Clarke, Clayton, Corwin, Dayton, Dickinson, Dodge (Iowa,) Douglas, Felch, Fitzgerald, Hale, Houston, Johnson of Louisiana, Jones, Metcalfe, Miller, Niles, Pearce, Phelps, Rusk, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Upham, Walker—35.

So the motion to receive was not laid on the table, and the petition was received.

Mr. Dayton suggested that the memorial be allowed to lie over until to-morrow; which was agreed to.

Mr. Underwood subsequently—with a view to giving the proposition made yesterday by Mr. Hale an equal footing with that just presented hy himself—moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the motion to receive the petitions presented yesterday by the Senator from New Hampshire was laid upon the table; which motion lies over for consideration when Mr. Underwood's petition comes up for reference.

ADMISSION OF CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Berrien, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill for the admission of California into the Union as a State, presented a lengthy report, concluding with a resolution setting forth that it is inexpedient to pass said hill.

Mr. Mason moved the printing of 10,000 extra copies of the report.

Mr. Douglas addressed the Senate in opposition to the report, and in support of the proposition for the passage of an act of Congress providing for the admission of California as a State, before a Constitution had been adopted by the people of that Territory.

The debate was continued by Senators Downs, Butler, Foote, Berrien, Westcott, and Dayton, and the further consideration of the whole subject was then postponed until to-morrow.

After the consideration of Executive business,

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, had under debate the Indian Appropriation Bill; and, after disposing of this, the subject of mileage came up, giving rise to a lively debate, hut resulting in nothing.

The Committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1848.—No. 163. Maria Mathison et al., plaintiffs in error, *vs.* the Branch Bank of the State of Alabama. The motion to dismiss this cause for the want of jurisdiction submitted to the Court on the record by Mr. Inge for the defendant in error, and by Gov. Gayle on a written argument in behalf of the plaintiffs in error.

No. 22. Jacob Hugg et al., plaintiffs, *vs.* Augusta Insurance Banking Company. The argument continued by Mr. Mayer for the plaintiffs, and by Messrs. Steuart and Johnson for the defendants.

Adjourned till Tuesday at 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1849.—No. 218. The New Jersey Steam Navigation Company, appellant, *vs.* Jonathan P. Felt, appeal from the Circuit Court of the United States for Rhode Island. On the motion of Mr. Webster, this appeal was docketed and dismissed, with costs, under the 43d rule of the Court.

No. 173. Jonathan W. Nesmith et al. complainants, *vs.* Thomas C. Sheldon et al. Submitted to the Court on the record and printed arguments, by Mr. Root for the complainants, and by Mr. Romeyn for the defendants.

No. 22. Hugg and Bandel et al., plaintiffs, *vs.* the Augusta Insurance Company. Argument continued by Mr. Johnson for the defendants, and by Mr. Nelson for the plaintiffs.

Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY.—No. 6. Martin Luther, plaintiff in error, *vs.* Luther M. Borden et al. In error to the Circuit Court of the United States for Rhode Island. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, affirming the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause, with costs.

No. 47. Rachael Luther, complainant, *vs.* Luther M. Borden et al. On a certificate of division in opinion between the judges of the Circuit Court of the United States for Rhode Island. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, dismissing and remanding this cause, no point having been certified within the meaning of the act of Congress.

No. 163. M. Mathison et al., *vs.* the Branch Bank at Mobile. In error to the Supreme Court of Alabama. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, dismissing this cause for the want of jurisdiction.

No. 22. Hugg and Bandel, plaintiffs, *vs.* the Augusta Insurance Company. Argument concluded by Mr. Nelson for the plaintiffs.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY.—No. 21. Thos. Henderson et al., plaintiffs in error, *vs.* the State of Tennessee. Argued by Messrs. Green and Eaton for the plaintiffs in error, and Mr. Crozier for the defendant in error.

No. 23. William S. Bodley et al., appellants, *vs.* Wm. M. Goodrich. Submitted to the Court on the record and printed argument, by Mr. Reid for the appellee.

No. 24. James Erwin, plaintiff in error, *vs.* Alfred J. Lowry, curator, &c. Argument commenced by Mr. Brent for the plaintiff in error.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY.—No. 24. James Erwin, plaintiff in error, *vs.* A. L. Lowry. Argument continued by Mr. Brent for the plaintiff in error, and by Mr. Bradley for the defendant in error.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

OBITUARY.

Died at his residence near Wooster, Ohio, on the 30th November, Mr. JAMES BRUCE. The deceased was a Scotchman by birth, though an American by choice. He was a friend of the slave, and in his Christian deportment, and mild advocacy of Liberty principles, spread silently a healthful moral influence around him.

W. H. T.

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Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, late Commissioner of Patents;
Hon. Julius Rockwell, Massachusetts;
Hon. Willis Hall, New York;
Hon. Robert Smith, Illinois;
Hon. J. A. Rockwell, Connecticut:
And to the following testimonial from the Hon. Commissioner of Patents:

WASHINGTON, *November* 28, 1848.

To all whom it may concern:

During the time I have filled the office of Commissioner of Patents, and for some time previous, Zenas C. Robbins, Esq., has followed the business of Patent Solicitor in this city, and has been in the daily prosecution of business in the line of his profession at the Patent Office.

I am well acquainted with Mr. Robbins personally, and believe him to he a man of integrity and ability, to whom persons at a distance may safely intrust their business. I am pleased to have the opportunity to say that he is faithful to the interests of his clients, and has heen, thus far, very successful in the practice of his profession.

Jan. 11. EDMUND BURKE.

MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW.

No. V.—DECEMBER, 1848.

CONTENTS.—The Political Destination of America. Legality of American Slavery. The Law of Evidence. The Works of Walter Savage Landor. A New Theory of the Effect of the Tides. Postal Reform. The Free Soil Movement. Short Reviews and Notices.

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Terms of Court, Cook County, Illinois.

County court—first Monday in February, May, and October.

Circuit court—second Monday in June and November.

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Aug. 26. S. A. PEUGH, Washington, D. C.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.

RETRIBUTION.

BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH.

[CONTINUED.]

The last year of Miss Grey's residence at school drew near its close. Christmas was approaching, and there was to be the usual examination of the pupils, and then the breaking up for the holydays. There was great emulation among the young ladies, and Hester felt very anxious that her friend, Miss Summers, should distinguish herself, and urged, encouraged, and assisted her accordingly. But Juliette was averse to study, and seemed to have a taste only for drawing-room accomplishments. Her especial talent lay in music, and there was no doubt that she would distance all competitors for the highest prize in that science.

One evening, Juliette had thrown away her books, and was sitting in a musing attitude before her mirror. Shall we dive down into the deep of the young girl's heart, and see what is passing there? Vague and indistinct, but strong emotions of the spirit, which, if arranged into thought, would read thus: "I do not care for these school prizes! They are beneath my desire, as beyond my reach. I should as soon wish for the stars of Heaven to spangle my dress, or the rainbow for a scarf, as think of these high honors. Besides, what girl in her senses would think of purchasing even the highest honors of her school at the price of red eyes and yellow cheeks. Preposterous! No, no; let Hester, with her broad forehead and sharp chin, carry off all the *praise* and *glory* of the coming exhibition; *I* shall vanquish hearts, and, from among the number, select one in a golden case." And glowing with the thought, Juliette arose with a burning cheek and sparkling eye, and caught her beautiful reflection in the mirror—

"Yes," said she, exultingly, "I am a beauty. Thank Heaven that has given me beauty instead of wealth, station, or genius;" and her lovely lips budded into a half-blown smile as she said it. There was a little thin arm wound around her waist, and a little pale cheek leaned against her bosom, and the low voice of Hester murmured—

"Ah, Juliette, love, you are right in thanking Heaven for your gift of beauty. I do not agree with the old saws that would have us disparage it. It is a gift of high value, this 'mere physical beauty,' as it is sometimes contemptuously called. Like all other blessings, of wealth, talent, or station, it involves a serious responsibility."

"Oh! you sweet, solemn, absurd Hester!" said Juliette, gathering her to her bosom. "To talk of beauty's responsibility! when you know very well its only responsibility is to look as charming as possible."

Hester returned the caress, and gently extricating herself, said—

"It is an agent of great power, Juliette, this beauty. A beautiful woman's chances of happiness and usefulness are multiplied a hundred fold, if she only knows and feels the real deep value and purpose of her beauty. Its infinite powers of eloquence should be enlisted on the side of right. What language can so soon penetrate to the heart, winning it to thoughts of mercy and justice, as the melting beams of a clear dark eye! What words can reach the soul, inspiring it to deeds of heroic self-sacrifice or enduring toil, like the light of a pure spirit, when it flashes through eyes of beauty! Yes, Juliette, thank Heaven for your matchless loveliness, but do not degrade or pervert it. I sometimes wish that I were beautiful."

"You would not pervert its purpose, I know." Hester smiled.

"I don't know. 'I can better teach twenty what were *good* to be done, than be one of the twenty to follow mine own teaching.' Juliette, I am going to tell you a phenomenon of my own mind. I seldom *think* of my *looks*. Yet, nevertheless, I *feel* as if I were beautiful; and so when I come upon my reflection suddenly before a mirror, I start and feel shocked. The face and figure do not seem to be my own. It has always been thus with me. I have never got used to myself. It is very strange. I wonder if I am alone in that?"

"I believe you are alone in that, dear Hester, but it is not strange; I think I can explain it," said the wily girl. "You have a beautiful spirit, and you are more conscious in your spirit than in your person; thence you always feel beautiful in the spirit; and when you suddenly see its outward and visible clothing, you are startled, as you said;" but Juliette, as she spoke, turned away her head to conceal the ridiculing smile that she could not repress. But turning around again, presently she said—

"But come, tell me, Hester dearest, how comes it, in the dispensation of Providence, that you, who would use the blessing so well, are not so lovely as you *wish to be*, for you are *really* very pretty, Hester?"

Passing over the impudent flattery of the last clause, Hester replied—

"I have interpreted the trial in this way; I know not if correctly. In this soul of mine there exists a vast capacity for, and propensity to, *inordinate affection*. All natural claimants of my love 'sleep in the dust of the earth.' My affections are hoarded up only to be lavished on the one who shall seek and call them out. And, Juliette, I am constantly and involuntarily thinking of, and even expecting to meet with, such a one. It is a strong tendency in my nature that I have to resist. I know, I feel, that if I should ever love *at all*, I should love *intensely*—that my whole soul would be absorbed in the one passion—that all the highest affections, hopes, and aspirations, that should seek a home in Heaven and an enjoyment in God, would settle upon earth, and earth would be my Heaven."

"But this is very extravagant, Hester."

"I know it is, and therefore, as I said, I believe I shall never be blessed with domestic love, for I could not keep affection within its proper limits."

"*I* love you, dear Hester."

"You are my *friend*, Juliette, and your friendship has blessed me; but, ah! dear girl, there is still a *great void* unfilled—a *vast want* unsatisfied."

Still, Hester's soul was in a transition state. It was slowly and feebly struggling from weakness and darkness into light and strength.

Miss Miller, the principal of the school, at this moment sailed majestically into the room, and, addressing herself to Hester, said—

"A gentleman from your guardian awaits you in the drawing-room, Miss Grey."

Hester arose, courtesied, and left the room, thinking, "who can it be?"

Miss Miller remained, and sinking gracefully into a chair, she remarked, in the cold and distant tone which she generally assumed to the beautiful orphan, towards whom she had conceived an aversion too justly grounded, perhaps—"I am fortunate in having this opportunity of a *tête-à-tête* presented, Miss Summers. As at the commencement of the next term I expect to receive an accession of pupils, it will be out of my power to accommodate you longer than the expiration of *this* term. It is my best advice, therefore, that you advertise immediately for the place of a governess."

Juliette received this "notice to quit" with the air of an empress, and slightly bent her haughty little head, to throw it back more haughtily than before, as you have seen a lily bow for an instant, and with a new impetus spring back more proudly than ever. And looking at her teacher, her glance plainly said—

"Well! Have you anything more to present? If not, you have permission to withdraw," *so* plainly that the principal *did* withdraw—her dislike to her pupil not at all diminished by the interview.

"It's not worth while to control one's natural feelings, and to use one's powers of fascination upon a schoolmistress. Such persons should be kept in their places," thought Juliette, totally regardless of her dependence on, and obligations to, the lady in question. "And happily," continued her thought, "I need not become a teacher myself; Hester's friendship will save me from that degradation—the last of the Nozziiini."

In the mean time, Hester had passed into the parlor. As she entered, a gentleman advanced to meet her, took her hand with an air of mingled deference and affection, and led her to a seat, saying, as he stood before her, before seating himself—

"I have the pleasure of speaking to Miss Hester Grey, our young ward."

"That is my name. Col. Dent, I presume?"

The stranger bowed an acknowledgment, and then, with a grave countenance, and in deep, full, serious tones, said—

"My father, Miss Grey, lies at the point of death. He wishes to see you placed in possession of your home before he departs, and has commissioned me, if agreeable to yourself, to conduct you to 'The Vale' immediately. Can you be ready by the day after to-morrow?"

"Oh, yes! Before that; to-morrow or to-night. Do not let us delay a moment longer than necessary. I would not upon any account keep you an instant from the bed-side of your father. Oh! I feel for him so much."

Then the deep, rich tones replied, "My father has lived an earnest life, Miss Grey, and prepares to render up his soul without regret, and without fear."

"But *you*—oh, I feel so sorry for you—you'll be alone, then, just as I am!" said she, simply.

He looked into the serious, earnest, little face of the young girl, and, pitying her, said, "No, Hester; no human being need ever suffer loneliness. The most perfect communion of spirits that can be conceived, is the union of the human soul with the Divine Spirit of its Father and Creator. Listen, Hester—Miss Grey! Under our human organization, not one millionth portion of our thoughts, feelings, or sentiments; of our hopes, fears, or desires; of our sufferings or enjoyments, can be communicated to another, however near to us that other may be—yet *all* are known to God, our Father. Think, then, that if we purify our hearts, and seek a union with the Divine mind, how perfect that communion may be—how in days of the most severe suffering, of the most terrible temptations, in the arid desolation—when we are, as it were, broken on the wheel of life—we may feel, with deep joy, that 'I am not alone, for my Father is with me.'"

"Oh! but this infinite power, wisdom, and goodness—how shall we find Him?"

"Some are *driven* for shelter to the Father's bosom, by the storms of life; some are won thither by the sunshine; few, very few, seek Him of their own free wills."

Colonel Dent rose to go, saying—

"It will be convenient, you think, Miss Grey, for you to leave here to-morrow morning?"

"Yes, sir, I will be ready."

Colonel Dent then took his departure, leaving in Miss Grey's hand a packet, which, when opened, proved to contain bank notes to the amount of two hundred dollars.

"Oh, I am so glad of this!" she said; "this will enable me to get something pretty for Mrs. Nicholls and Juliette. Dear Juliette shall have that coveted diamond ring now, to encircle her pretty snowy finger."

Hurrying up stairs, she found Juliette all ready for her, in a sea of tears, at the thought of parting with her dearest Hester. Miss Grey said and did all she could think of to console her protegé. She called Juliette her dearest friend—the chosen sister of her heart—assured her, that if she would only consent to remain at the institution another year, at her own cost, until she had accomplished herself on the piano and harp, and perfected her knowledge of French and Italian, that she should then come to her to share her home and fortune. All this Hester earnestly assured her she might accept without compromising her dignity, from her bosom friend, her adopted sister. After some considerable delay, occasioned by the finesse and pretended reluctance of Miss Summers, this plan was finally determined upon between the two friends, and, in the course of the evening, received the concurrence of Miss Miller.

"There is one thing, however, that I must beg of you, sweet Hester; and that is, to write me letters every week. Will you, love?" Hester replied by a warm caress.

Long before dawn the next morning, a light was struck in Hester's room, and she arose to dress herself in the chill morning air. Juliette, in her dressing-gown, was shivering by her side. Soon the sound of wheels was heard to stop at the door, and the stage horn blew. Hester hurried on her cloak and hood; and, catching Juliette in her arms in a last farewell embrace, hastened down stairs, where she was met and conducted to the door by Mrs. Nichols. Out before the door, looming through the dark, stood the large old-fashioned stage coach, and beside it towered the tall figure of Colonel Dent, who came up to her immediately, and, with a hasty salutation, handed her into the coach.

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From Hester Grey to Juliette Summers.

THE VALE, *December* 19, 179–.

Bad as the chance was, I hope you received my first letter, dear Juliette, giving you a detailed account of our journey, and particularly of the night we passed at Monticello. My guardian had a most interesting conversation with Mr. Jefferson, upon a subject that then occupied the thoughts of both—the gradual abolition of slavery. My guardian took Monticello in his way, in order to solicit Mr. Jefferson, when he should pass through our part of the country, to come and see the operation of his experiment farm, worked entirely by *hired* colored laborers. Of this experiment I will tell you more by and by.

Now I wish to give you some account of the family of my guardian, whom I found here in charge of my patrimony. We arrived here so late at night, that I retired to rest without seeing General Dent. In the morning, however, I was conducted to his room. He is evidently very near the elucidation of the great secret of life and death. He looks forward to it with a subdued, earnest joy, as far removed from *presumption* as from *despair*. He received me with much affection—telling me that he was my father's companion in arms during the revolutionary struggle—that a wound he received in battle had made him an invalid for many years, and prevented him travelling North to see me—that it is of this wound he is dying at last. * * * *

DECEMBER 28th.

It is all over now. Ernest Dent, the patriot, philanthropist, and martyr, sleeps with his fathers. With too profound a sense of the awful solemnity of the passage to meet death lightly, with too firm a faith in God to meet it reluctantly, he obeyed the summons in the same spirit in which he received it weeks before—a spirit as far from presumption as from fear.

You may think, I dare say, that it is a very common dispensation of Divine Providence, the loss of a father to a grown man, and so may not feel inclined to sympathize with Colonel Dent in his loss. But this is an uncommon case. The relation subsisting between Ernest Dent and his son possessed all the tenderness and respect of paternal and filial affection, with the familiarity and confidence of fraternal love. And it could scarcely have been otherwise. Ernest married at an unusually early age—eighteen—was the father of Ernest junior the next year. Ernest the elder at thirty-seven, and his son at eighteen, joined the patriot army together—fought side by side during the whole war. They were together last at Yorktown, where the elder Dent received his so lately mortal wound. They sheathed their victorious swords simultaneously at the close of the war. Their labors were not over now, however. Fired with the love of liberty, glowing with gratitude to God, who had so lately delivered them from a foreign yoke, wishing to prove their gratitude by *giving* as freely as they had *received*, their first act was the manumission of all their slaves, and then they bent their thoughts to the emancipation of their race. True, it did not *then* look like the labor of turning the earth back in its orbit, or seem to require a faith like that of Joshua, when he commanded the sun to stand still in the heavens. Enthusiastic with their recent glorious triumph over oppression, and their new enjoyment of national independence, the halls of legislation became the very temples of Liberty, thrown freely open to the discussion of any plan for political or social improvement. And no topic was so welcome then as that of the Emancipation of the Nations—the freedom of the whole human race. Ernest Dent, and subsequently his son, was called to the Legislature. There, again, in another manner, they were brothers in arms, and co-laborers in the cause of Liberty for many years, until the latent ill effects of the elder Dent's wound became so distressing as to confine him to the house—much of the time to his bed. Still his son was in the Legislature, and plans of emancipation, elaborated from the brain of the patriot, found their way through his brother-son to the Senate hall of the Commonwealth. These were then freely admitted and discussed; but, as years went by, opposition arose against them. The season had gone by; the enthusiasm in the cause of general emancipation, raised by their recent glorious victories in the cause of Liberty, had subsided. Like that of self-deceived converts to Christianity, they had become false to their first love, recreant to their first faith, lukewarm in the cause of universal liberty. And projects for the emancipation of mankind were fast giving way before selfish (miscalled patriotic) plans of national glory and emolument. And now you can understand, Juliette, how iron-knitted must have been this friendship. I have a strong, secret conviction, that this close union of heart with heart, and mind with mind, in one holy cause, has prevented the younger Dent from wishing to marry up to this day.

It was about this time that my lamented father died in Paris, (whither he had been sent by Government,) and Colonel Dent was appointed guardian of my little self and regent of their patrimony during my minority.

And now I am going to tell you that their position was very peculiar. Two men, of high moral feeling, with anti-slavery opinions, who had emancipated all their own slaves, left guardians to an infant heiress with three hundred negroes, and a large landed estate, charged with its management. Invested with the sole control, and irresponsible for the direction of its properties for many years, what did they do? In the possession of some capital, which they did not fear to risk, for the plain reason that they had made up their minds to its loss, if necessary, they resolved to try the practical effect of a plan they had long contemplated in theory. They came upon this farm. They found it very much like all other farms in this part of the country—ill-managed enough. Barns out of repair; fences staggering, or flat; half-starved cattle roaming at pleasure from field to field; troops of half-naked negro children lurking in squalid quarters, or sunning themselves in arid fields; one-third of the cleared land under indifferent cultivation, and two-thirds grown up in weeds and thistles; gangs of slave laborers loitering in the fields, spending one-third of the day pretending to hoe corn, and two-thirds leaning on their hoes; a low, stupid, and brutal overseer, who was idle and neglectful three days in the week, and cruel, exacting, and ferocious, the remainder, and capricious and unconscionable always. There was a *soul* wanting—the soul of a fiend in a vigilant, determined, and ferocious slave-driver—such as seldom can be found among slave owners—or the soul of a philanthropist, who would take this land and people, and, by giving the latter a fair but fixed per centage of its products, make it their interest to cultivate the soil in the best manner.

This plan presented difficulties, but not insuperable obstacles; and I will tell you how my guardians met and overcame them. The plan did not even require money. The capital which they had resolved to appropriate to this experiment was kept as a reserved fund, in the event of necessity. They came here, as I said, and, to increase the chances of success to their experiment, they wished to examine the instruments and the material by which and upon which they designed to act. They resolved, therefore, to work the farm for one year upon the old plan. The first thing to be done was to dismiss the overseer, and to direct in person all the work. Barns and fences were repaired and white-washed or painted; pens and folds were built; weeds, thistles, and decayed wood, were cleared up, collected, dried, and burnt, and returned to the soil as manure, &c.; and during all this the eyes of the experimenters were fixed keenly upon the negroes, with a view to discover and select the most competent and deserving among them to begin with. At the commencement of the new year, having assembled the slaves together, he selected half a dozen of the most industrious and faithful among them, and, setting aside the fact of their bondage, proposed to hire each one of them at a fair rate of wages, for one year, telling them that if this plan worked well, it would be continued, and would probably result in their entire manumission; further, that this privilege should be extended to all the adults on the plantation, as they should show themselves fit subjects of it, and then he dismissed his audience, to talk about the plan, but to doubt it.

These half a dozen men and women labored hard, for they were now inspired with a *hope*, at least; and when, at the end of the month, they actually received their first wages, their hope was strengthened and confirmed, and acted as a powerful stimulant to the other negroes. In a few months, the beneficial effects of this plan began to be very apparent. The labor was more cheerfully and more faithfully performed. There was no more loitering over hoes, or sun-gazing—no more shirking work every time the eye of the overseer was off—no more feigning sickness, or *grunting* with premature old age—no more swindling and pilfering—and, on the part of the overseers, there was no more fretting, fuming, and swearing, to get the work done. This is a very slight sketch of the moral and physical benefits of the experiment upon owner, slaves, and plantation, *so far*. But the project was and is progressive. In the course of the year, the privilege of working upon wages was extended to many others of the slaves, and at this moment they *all* enjoy that liberty, with the hope and prospect of its becoming unalienable by their entire manumission. All this that I have written you has been communicated to me by my guardian, in various conversations that I have held with him. And he proposes a plan for my consideration, viz: that, as soon as I reach my majority, I shall illustrate that event by the immediate emancipation of all my people.

"You will lose nothing by it, Hester," said he: "I am prepared to show, from my accounts, that the income of the farm, after paying them their wages, from which they support themselves, is one-third greater than before, under the old system. You need not think, either, that they will leave the soil, or that, if they do, you will be in danger of embarrassment from the want of laborers. There are poor white people enough around you who are suffering for work. But your people will not leave the farm, unless you drive them off. The animal affections are all stronger in the African than in us; and among the strongest is their attachment to the soil upon which they were born and have been brought up."

I acceded to the plan very readily, and requested him to take all necessary steps, and have all the papers prepared for my signature, which I assured him should be affixed to them the very day I should become twenty-one; and this I have communicated to my people. Ah! Juliette, if I were to attempt to give you anything like a true picture of my deep joy in making this communication to them, or their gratitude and wild delight in receiving it, I should grow extravagant—I should rant. In short, I can trust myself to say nothing about it. Colonel Dent seemed to highly approve of my ready acquiescence in his plan. (Why should he? There was nothing so very magnanimous in *that*.) I feel, however, *blessed* in the approbation of so good a man. He conducted me all over the farm, and indeed it is the model farm of the county. It reminds me of the best farms in Pennsylvania, except that it must be far more productive, as far as one can judge from its appearance at this season, and that it is very much enlivened by the residence of the negroes upon it. Each family, I must tell you, has its little home on the land, as a part of their wages. I have brought my letter quite to the corner of the sheet, and have scarcely room to say that I will write you again soon. God bless you.

HESTER GREY.

Extracts from Hester's letters.

APRIL 23, 179–.

Juliette, I am happy now. The cold, dense morning fog, that invested and concealed life and its purposes from my view, is clearing up before the glorious sun of Christian Faith, and revealing the Heavens and the Earth—a landscape full of beauty and variety, an atmosphere full of light, and audible with music.

My health is established too—I am strong and elastic. I feel my life in every vein. Mrs. Wimsat, our housekeeper, says that it is the effect of the mountain air. I think it is the mountain occupation as well.

I have aims and objects now that occupy all my thoughts and employ all my faculties. I told you that Col. Dent's plan was a progressive one. Our final object in wishing to make this farm the very best and most beautiful in the State, is that, first, our nearest neighbors, who have seen every stage of this improvement, and then others, may perceive its benefits, and be induced to adopt it—thus paving the way to an emancipation that shall be as agreeable and profitable to all parties. We wish to demonstrate on this farm the practicability of this plan.

And this farm, Juliette. I long for you to see and admire it. It occupies the whole of a small green valley, containing about five hundred acres. It is nearly circular, being surrounded by steep hills, and behind them by high mountains. All in and out between the hills grow groups of forest trees. Dashing down from a mountain spring, and winding through this little valley, is a stream of pure water. Standing in the centre of this green valley is our homestead—a triangular building, with a very steep roof and long piazzas; and dotted about in the green fields, and beside the stream, and nestled under the trees, sit the little white cots of the negroes—each cot enlivened by its group of the wild, merry little imps, their children. The African race are constitutionally happy; they will be merry even under the most depressing circumstances. You may therefore well imagine how they enliven this scene with their songs. Indeed, I am delighted with this plantation—like it *far* better than I should like a Pennsylvania farm. *There* one family reside upon the farm, and the hired laborers live off. Here many little families live upon the soil, each happy in itself, and all having a common interest in the plantation—having a general director in the owner of the land, who pays them fair wages, and who will make them free at the first opportunity.

I take long rides over the hills, that form the rim of my saucer-shaped farm—sometimes accompanied by Mrs. Wimsat, Marcus Derby, her nephew, or a farm boy, and occasionally by my guardian. By the way, the notion you formed of Col. Dent's appearance is not at all correct. He is a tall, stout, dark man, with large, clear-cut features, and a full eye, or rather full eyes; he has *two* of them. He is not the most desirable equestrian companion in the world, though. We do not get very far from the house before he sinks into silence, his horse drops into a walk, his hand rests upon his knee, his hold upon the bridle relaxes, and there he is! fallen into a deep fit of thinking, while his horse crawls along at the rate of a mile an hour; and at last he will break out into some such expression as this:

"Yes! Hester, *that* will do. They must see the beneficial results—nay, the ultimate and absolute necessity of the thing."

"*What* will do, Col. Dent, and *who* must see, and *what* must they see?"

And then will follow some unfailing plan to bring about the Millennium, for the conceiving of which I forgive him all the boring he has bored me with."

That is my philosophical companion; but I have a poetical one—Marcus Derby. He is called "a very handsome young man."

He trots along merrily enough until we begin to climb the hills; then *he* falls into an amble, and gazes around in silence for some time, and then ejaculates something like this: "Beautiful! transcendingly beautiful! That mist rests upon the mountain's brow like a bridal veil, which the rising sun—the ardent bridegroom—is trying to raise. Miss Gray, I could daguerreotype a poem now!"

"Upon *me*, Mr. Derby?"

"Upon a piece of paper if I had it," he answers, snappishly.

"Save it till you get home."

"Oh! decidedly. Save it till I get home. No, *indeed;* that's always the way Miss Thalia and her sisters serve *me*. I came over this mountain last winter to collect a debt. The ground was covered with snow and ice, and the sky was dark with clouds—an unlikely day for a young lady to turn out, you'll admit. Yet, as I was climbing up this hill, suddenly out broke the sun, kindling up into blazing splendor the ice-clad scene, until the dazzling earth flashed back to Heaven a light as glorious as the sun himself. Oh! then, with fine dramatic effect, ambles up Miss Thalia herself, and places a whole pastoral poem in my hand, and, with the most seducing smile, assures me of her kind regards and continued favors. And then when I got home, opened my desk, laid out my paper, and (figuratively) put my hand in my pocket, lo! and behold, the favors of the Muse had all turned to dust and dry leaves, like the gifts of a veritable Irish fairy. She is coquetting with me, Miss Grey—poking fun at me. She'll jilt me, but I'll cut her acquaintance."

Besides which, I have a *sensible* companion in Mrs. Wimsat, who rides with me when we go to the weaver's, or the dyer's; for, to take a voluntary ride, to no end, seems to strike the good lady as highly absurd. She tells me the names and history of all my neighbors, whose farms we pass, calling my attention particularly to the plantations owned by elderly spinsters, whose example she highly commends to me, advising me to ponder well before I marry, &c.

She need not be afraid. I have not the slightest idea of marrying, even if any one wants me. I am too happy as I am. * * *

MAY 7th.

* * * Be sorry for me, Juliette. Oh! Juliette, be sorry for *me;* for my light, and warmth, and strength, are all *withdrawn*. My sky is full of tears, and I feel like the earth looks, on this cold, dark, rainy day, while the sun is hid. Colonel Dent has been much from home lately; and Marcus tells me that he is paying his addresses to a wealthy widow in Loudoun county. Now, this *ought* to be nothing to me. Yet, for more than a year, I have considered him as *my* guardian, *mine*, and nobody else's anything. The idea of his sustaining a nearer and dearer relation to another, suffocates me. Marcus says that she is a beautiful woman, too—tall and graceful. I wish Marcus had held his tongue. If there is anything I *could* hate in this world, it would be a chattering man.

* * * MAY 8th.

I had just written so far, dear Juliette, when I felt my head clasped by two large palms, and I knew that my guardian was behind me, reading what I had just written. I said nothing, for I was sinking with humiliation. Sitting down, and wheeling my chair around till I confronted him, he said, taking my hand—

"Hester, I like you; you suit me; and I sometimes think that if I do not secure you, some one else may come along and snatch you away; and that idea I cannot contemplate with calmness. Hester, will you be my wife?"

I felt as though an arrow had been sped through my heart. I was shocked, pained; and yet I knew that I should feel glad when that tremor wore away.

"Say, Hester."

"Yes, I will."

"*Indeed*, Hester, are you in earnest?"

"Yes, indeed I am."

"Humph! *what*, Hester, after all your asseverations that you would never marry, at least until you had freed all your people?"

"Yes, but I should have excepted *you*."

"And will you *accept* me, ha! Hester?"

"Yes, I tell you."

"But, Hester, recollect Mrs. Wimsat's caution. Are you not afraid—a little, weak, gentle creature as you are—to put yourself in the power of a great, strong man like me? How do you know but that I'll misuse you; tell me that?"

"How do I know? Why, I don't know *at all*. How do I know that my Heavenly Father will love, care for, and protect me as long as I live—or as long as I deserve it—but by Faith; and it is by Faith also that I feel I shall find protection and not aggression in your strength?"

"God bless you, Hester!" said he, and drew me to his bosom.

Now, Juliette, this was a queer wooing, you'll admit; but what else could he say? He could not talk to *me* of 'diamond eyes and ruby lips. So I am happy again, Juliette. The sun was not extinguished, but had only gone behind the clouds a little while, and now it has come out brightly and warmly, and filled me with strength and joy. That Marcus! I'll take a revenge on him for plaguing me so much, by presenting him with Satin, the glossy black Arabian he admires so much.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

☞ The writer of the following speaks feelingly. The plainness of his style will not detract from the force of his statements. We need not say that we dissent from his view respecting emancipation. Meantime, we commend the article to the attention of members of Congress, that they may learn that there are other than slave-holding interests in the slave States.—*Ed. Era.*

For the National Era.

SLAVERY AND THE POOR WHITE MEN OF VIRGINIA.

BY A CITIZEN OF VIRGINIA.

FRIEND BAILEY: As the Congress is now in session, and as the subject of slavery will again be a part of the business of that body, a few words from me, based on facts, may perhaps not be out of place.

Being born in 1801, in the Valley of Virginia, and having resided here to this day, as may be expected, I have seen some of the workings of slavery. The Valley has good land in it; some of which lies along the streams of water, while other portions, of heavy limestone soil generally, compose the middle part of the Valley. In addition to these lands, there are others of a thin gravelly nature, generally ranging nearest the mountains. The entire Valley is and has been settled for a number of years already, but at what date the slaves were brought in I have no knowledge. They were here at my earliest recollection, when they were but few, but their number has been constantly and steadily increasing to this time. Then the owners of them were also few, and each owned, perhaps, on an average, two, three, four, or six slaves. Alongside of the slaveholders were living eight or ten times their number who did not own any slaves, generally holding small farms of 100, 150, or 200 acres. But through some cause, which one can better imagine than tell, the most of these persons, living contiguous to their black neighbors, sold their lands to the slaveholders, and have gone to the West, to find homes more congenial to their wishes and interests. Thus it has come about that, in some places, four, five, or six, Free Soil farms were smelted into one slave farm; and where the smelting could not be effected, a slave-owner has made himself proprietor of so many detached farms. In this way, slavery in general has been getting the ascendency in the possession of the lands, while the white man, who would not involve himself in negro servitude, has, as already stated, gone to some Western State, while perhaps two-thirds of the residue of that class yet here are the occupants of the poorer lands which have been mentioned, when, at the same time, in three or more counties of the Valley, seven-tenths of the voters are non-slaveholders. But the time is coming when these too must leave our Valley, as the farms they own are generally small, their families large, and, of course, without sufficient employment. Their slave neighbors, who own the larger and most productive tracts of land, will not give them employment, having slaves to do their work; and therefore, being thus situated, necessity (not choice, as we all love home) will force them to seek a country of strangers for future homes. Thus slavery, like a huge serpent, is creeping on in our Valley, and will finally blight the whole of it. It has increased perhaps fifty or one hundred fold during my time, and has done its work of monopoly in more than one way.

There was a time when our young men here could get employment on farms at pleasure, and receive good prices. I recollect, when but a boy, that my brother, then a young man, got wages from fifteen to twenty dollars per month. The last two years of his service in that way he got twenty dollars per month, and then married the old farmer's daughter, which at once made him heir to the stock; but had the old man been a slaveholder, he would hardly have been willing for *Sam* to marry his daughter, for the good reason that his qualities would never have developed themselves to the old gentleman. But a series of labor on the farm brought them to light, and the result was not a bad one. But where is the man in our Valley now that can get half that sum as wages for the same service? Ah! these days and these wages are gone by, and I fear will never return for our young men. And why? Slavery is doing the labor on the rich lands of the Valley, and the sturdy young free white man must now learn a trade, contrary to his wishes, or leave the country and his friends, and go where the strength of his body and bent of his mind may find employment more congenial to his health, and which may suit him best. Blessed, thrice blessed, be the memory of those wise and good men, who, in the formation of this vast Republic, secured some portions of it from the curse of slavery, where the young and enterprising men of Virginia may find an asylum. They love Virginia, its mountains and dales, and sincerely regret to leave her; but slavery drives them, and they must go. Peace be to the ashes of their sires, whom they leave behind them, sleeping beneath the soil now trampled by the slave, while the children, the offspring of their affection, are seeking a refuge in other countries, where slavery cannot oppress them.

The Governor of our State (Virginia) in his recent message has missed it vastly, when he says: "The moral necessity for the emigration of no inconsiderable portion of our laboring white population is occasioned by the free blacks of the State." Ah, Billy, this will not do. It certainly is a *very* inconsiderable number of our good honest white men who leave this portion of our country through the influence of free black labor, and its low wages. We have as little relish for free blacks amongst us, as your honorable self; but we pray you, charge not this moral evil to the *very least* of its causes. Slavery, slavery does this work. Slaves owned here, and the thousand and one hired here from Eastern Virginia annually, at a price lower than the white man can work for—this has caused, and always will cause, the emigration from this section; and if from here the emigration is caused in this way, how much more terrible must be the effect on that portion of the State where the excess of slaves is such that labor cannot be produced sufficient to keep them employed—so much so, that swarms of them are hired out in other sections annually! How many of the farms in the Valley now work from ten, twenty, sixty, to a hundred or more slaves? These take just that amount of labor from the free but poor white men who must depend upon that kind of labor to make their living. The result is obvious. The land is held by but a small portion of white citizens, yet working many hands, (slaves;) consequently, the profit arising from products of the earth is in this way thrown into the hands of the few whites, and they and their families made very rich. The abominable system of black slavery does this; for, were it not for this, these rich landholders would be bound to sell some of their lands, or let tenants or renters farm it, and thus divide the spoils. Now, then, let this thing grow and spread over our entire nation, and the poor white people of this country would be in a worse condition than the paupers of Europe.

We say again, blessed be the memories of those worthies who secured to us better things, by fixing a limit to the Slave Power in the country they then possessed; and we fondly hope that our present rulers will effect like favors for future generations, in that territory which has lately been added to our large domain. This certainly is of the most weighty importance, as the evils of Slavery are inevitable; the slaveholder himself will in most instances confess, yet, like the drunkard, indulge in it to the very brink of destruction. He lives in ease and comfort, and sometimes in extravagance; makes money by slave labor and slave traffic; and in the latter way of making money, he would like to have the whole world to be his market, and thus finally depopulate the earth of her white inhabitants, if he could but be the last one to ride out on the back of a slave—so completely is he infatuated with it, and so unmanned within himself as to move about in the general wreck of its pernicious effects, without attempting to stay its progress in the least. Who, then, must save (if saved at all) from the ruin of Slavery, New Mexico and California? The West and the North must do it. This lies particularly heavy and important as a duty on Western members in Congress, to reciprocate to others what they now enjoy through favors bestowed on them by good men in former days, of a like nature. What would be the condition of the Western States now, had not Mr. Jefferson and other worthies of the South and North stayed Slavery at the Ohio river? Let them think of this, and go and do likewise.

Southern men, who would like to see bounds set to slave territory, can do nothing to effect it. They scarcely dare open their lips to say a word favorable to it, as the abuse would be bitter; yet there is none who know and feel the evil effects of Slavery better than they do. They also fear, that to abolish Slavery in the South, and have the blacks as free as white men are, mingled and mixed in one community, would be worse than Slavery itself. But many believe here, that if Slavery were not allowed to spread over more territory than it now has, God in his wise providence would perhaps, in his own appointed time, make a way possible for the final emancipation of the blacks. It is true, in many instances, the slave is cruelly treated, and shamefully bound down to ignorance; nor is his condition at all likely to be made better while in servitude, only where his master lives properly under the influence of the Gospel of Christ; then better things are sometimes seen. The slaves generally in the valley are well fed and clothed; and, so far, their condition is not bad. But the great evil of them is felt by the poorer class of white people, in the way already stated, and in petty thefts, of which most of the blacks are guilty. Put Slavery, then, in the best form you can, and it is an abominable thing; and the People of the United States can never be considered a happy and great people, in the true sense of the word, while *these things* remain amongst them. Turn it which way you will, and it remains black; and the white people that dabble with it, will not fail to find themselves smutted by it. How, then, shall this stain be obliterated from our otherwise happy nation, and who shall he be that may accomplish this thing?

Another idea, founded on fact, may be noticed here. In several counties, where seven or eight-tenths of the voters are without slaves, there are very few instances where civil offices are held by any of them; perhaps there may be a small number of magistrates who do not hold slaves. Several reasons may be assigned for this. Slavery has got such undoubted preponderance in these things, that both classes seem to think that the slaveholder alone should hold these stations. He has such a habit of domineering and ruling, that he seeks every opportunity to work himself into power, which he generally accomplishes by making those his friends already in power, and these then unitedly, by craft, working on the credulity of the unsuspecting laboring white man, (where he has anything to say to it,) his designs become accomplished. While, on the other hand, the laborer seldom seeks an office, believing it useless, from the persuasion that he cannot obtain it, in which his friends concur, from the notion they have of slave preponderance. Thus civil offices have become somewhat hereditary with slaveholders, and I verily believe ever will be so, where slaveholders and non-slaveholders live together in one community. The man of slaves will bear rule. In his social intercourse, he there too is one-sided. The laboring white man has no pleasures in his house and family for him. In short, the two classes cannot properly live in the same community; they should and must be separate. But if the laws of our land do not effect this separation, by setting limits for slavery, then without a shadow of doubt it will spead to the remotest parts of our land; and then every white man must either become a slaveholder, or a vassal to slaveholders; and, finally, the black and white in a smelted (mixed in blood) form, occupy this vast and rich territory. More than one slaveholder actually believe this. May God, in his infinite mercy, avert it! Slavery is an evil in itself, and every one must see its evil and wicked consequences. How, then, can a true patriot give his aid to extend it one mile further on our continent; but how much less the believer in Christ?

J. H. STEFFY.

December 22, 1848.

PRINTERS' MATERIALS.

TYPE FOUNDRY.—The subscribers have taken the Type Foundry, No. 59 Gold street, and will continue the business heretofore conducted by Robert Taylor. They will attend to all orders they may receive with punctuality and despatch. All the Type manufactured by them will be hand cast, and they will furnish all kinds of Printers' Materials of the best quality.

Mr. J. A. T. Overend is still employed in superintending the manufacturing department.

WHITING & TAYLOR,
Successors to Robert Taylor, corner of Gold and Ann streets, New York.
Charles Whiting.
Theodore Taylor. Jan. 20.—tf

GLASCOE, HENRY, & WEBB,

COTTON and Tobacco Factors; Dealers in Blooms, Pig Iron, Pig Lead, Bagging and Rope, &c.; Commission and Forwarding—Columbia street, next to Broadway Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio.
J. S. GLASCOE.
C. B. HENRY.
June 8.—1y E. WEBB.

NO FELLOWSHIP WITH SLAVEHOLDERS.

A SCRIPTURAL ARGUMENT in favor of withdrawing fellowship from Churches and Ecclesiastical Bodies tolerating Slaveholding among them, by Rev. Silas McKeen, of Bradford, Vermont, is the title of a tract of 40 pages, just published by the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and for sale at their Depository in New York. Price—$2.50 a hundred; single copy, 3 cents.
WILLIAM HARNED, Agent,
April 20. 61 John street, New York.

LAW OFFICE, COLUMBUS, O.

WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Jun., *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Columbus, Ohio. Office up stairs in Herencourt's Building, between American Hotel and Neil House. Business connected with the profession, of all kinds, punctually attended to. Jan. 28.

LARD OIL.

IMPROVED LARD OIL.—Lard Oil of the finest quality, equal to sperm for combustion, also for machinery and woollens, being manufactured without acids, can always be purchased and shipped in strong barrels, prepared expressly to prevent leakage. Orders received and executed for the Lake, Atlantic, and Southern cities, also for the West Indies and Canadas. Apply to
THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 20. 33 Water street, near Walnut, Cincinnati, O.

BOSTON PIANO FORTE MANUFACTORY.

THE subscribers having removed from No. 402 and 406, (where they have been located for about twenty years past,) to their new manufactory. No. 400, Washington street, Boston, will continue to manufacture Piano Fortes of every description. They have the exclusive right for manufacturing Coleman's patent Æolian Attachment in Massachusetts, with the right to vend in all parts of the country.

Every instrument purchased as above is warranted to give entire satisfaction, or the purchase money will be refunded. Any orders by mail executed at as low prices as if the purchaser were present, and warranted as above.
T. GILBERT & CO.
Firm—T. Gilbert and Wm. H. Jameson. Aug. 24.—10m

LAW OFFICE, CINCINNATI.

BIRNEY & SHIELDS, Attorneys at Law, corner of Main and Court streets, Cincinnati.

JAMES BIRNEY, Notary Public and Commissioner to take acknowledgments of deeds and depositions for the States of Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, Michigan, New Hampshire, Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, New York, and Arkansas.
Jan. 6.—tf

DE WOLF & FARWELL,

ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law. Office, Clark street, opposite the Court House, Chicago, Illinois.
CALVIN DE WOLF.
Jan. 4—1y. WILLIAM W. FARWELL.

PRINTING OF CONGRESS.

IN compliance with the "Joint Resolution directing the manner of procuring the Printing for the two Houses of Congress," approved August 8, 1846, sealed proposals will be received by the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, for supplying the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, with the necessary printing for each for the Thirty-first Congress. The proposals will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Senate, in the Capitol, at Washington, until ten o'clock in the forenoon of Saturday, the 3d day of February, 1849, and no longer; and blank tabular forms of proposals, with suitable samples of the paper on which the printing is to be executed, will be kept at the said office until that time, and furnished, on application, to all persons desiring to make proposals. Each class of printing, including the printing for the Senate and the printing for the House of Representatives, will form one separate job, and is to be provided for by a separate contract.

The First Class consists of bills and joint resolutions, to be printed with English type, and with an English white line between each printed line, the page to be of folio size, 52 ems long and 28 ems wide, and printed on regular size uncut cap paper, of good quality, suitable for writing on, each sheet to measure not less that 8 by 13 inches, and the single ream to weigh not less than twelve pounds. The proposals must state the price per page, containing 1,456 ems, for composition, and the price per page for press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, for 500 copies, and for 550 copies, and the proportionate price for any additional number up to 1,000 copies.

The Second Class will consist of reports of committees, with such documents and papers as may accompany them, with an index to the whole, to be printed on royal paper, of regular size, uncut, and of good quality, each sheet to measure not less than nineteen by twenty-four inches, and each single ream to weigh not less than nineteen pounds, with a neat small pica type, and not leaded, in octavo pages of the same size as required by the joint resolution of the 3d of March, 1819, and to be 55 ems long and 31 ems wide. Where the matter suitable for a page cannot be brought into the octavo form with small pica type, neat brevier type will be used, the page to be 70 ems long by 41 ems wide. The proposals must state the price per page of 1,705 ems for composition for small pica plain, and for small pica rule; the price per page of 2,870 ems of brevier plain, and of brevier rule; and the price per page for press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, of the octavo form, for 1,250 copies, and for 1,380 copies, and the proportionate price for 1,500 copies, and for any number between each of those and 1,500 copies. Where the construction of tables belonging to this class requires them to be printed in a form larger than octavo, but to be folded in octavo, the proposals will state the price per 1,000 ems for composition in brevier rule work, and the price for the press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, of each table, for 1,250 copies, and for 1,380 copies, and the proportionate price for 1,500 copies, and for any number between each of those and 1,500 copies. As a number of copies of each document are to be reserved for binding, and delivered to the binder in sheets, and as the printers in such cases will only be required to furnish the press-work and paper, each proposal will state the price or rate to be deducted per page per 100 copies for the folding and stitching of the octavo printing, and the price or rate per 100 copies, to be deducted for the folding and stitching of each printed table; the said rate of reduction to have reference either to any part of the usual number of documents of and under 1,500 copies, or to any number of extra copies above that number. The proposals will also state the additional price for 100 copies, for the folding and stitching of each map, chart, diagram, or plate, of any size or shape, that may be directed to accompany any printed report or document of this class, and the proportionate price for any less or greater number, up to 1,500 copies.

The Third Class will consist of the Journals of each House, with the appendix, tables, and index thereto; to be printed in the same manner, form, and type, and upon the same paper, as the octavo printing of the second class; and the proposals will state the same particulars as are required for the second class, except that the price for press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, of the Journals, will be stated for 1,200 copies, and for 1,450 copies, and the proportionate price for 1,500 copies, and for any number between each of those and 1,500 copies.

The Fourth Class will consist of the Executive documents of each House, embracing messages from the President, reports from the several Executive Departments, offices, and bureaus, and the documents and statements communicated therewith, with an index to the whole, to be printed in the same manner, form, type, and size, and upon the same paper, as the second class; and the proposals must state the same particulars as are required for the second class.

The Fifth Class will consist of every other description of printing not included in the preceding classes, and will be divided as follows:

Part A.—Resolutions and other documents from State Legislatures, memorials, petitions, and all other papers or documents not included in parts B and C of this class. This part of the fifth class to be printed in the same manner, form, type, and size, and upon the same paper, as the second class, and the proposals must state the same particulars as are required for the second class.

Part B.—Treaties, messages, reports, and other papers and documents ordered to be printed in confidence for the use of the Senate—to be printed in the same manner, form, type, and size, and upon the same paper, as the second class; and the proposals must state the same particulars as are required for the second class, except that the price for press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, of this part, will be stated for 100 copies, and in proportion for a less number. This part B is for the Senate alone.

Part C.—Tabular statements of the orders of the day, lists of yeas and nays, circular letters, and all other printing of a miscellaneous character, in the various sizes of royal octavo, quarto post, or folio cap, or any other size not otherwise specified herein; and the proposals will state the price per 1,000 ems for composition in whatever type may be required, and the price per page per 100 copies of each of the above sizes; or where the matter to be printed cannot be so computed, the price per 100 copies, including composition, press-work, and paper, will be stated.

The proposals will state the per centage deduction on the prices for press-work, paper, folding, and stitching, as stated under the second class for furnishing additional copies of documents of either of the aforesaid classes in royal octavo form, and of tables in larger form—that is to say, the per centage deduction for any number exceeding 1,500 and not exceeding 5,000; for any number exceeding 5,000 and not exceeding 10,000; for any number exceeding 10,000 and not exceeding 20,000; and for any number exceeding 20,000 copies. The deduction in every case to have reference to, and to be calculated upon, the whole number of any document ordered. The proposals will also state, separately, the per centage deduction on the price stated for folding and stitching of any maps, charts, diagrams, or plates, belonging to such documents, for the same numbers of documents as above mentioned.

All the type specified above must be of the regular size of its kind, and must not be placed upon any but a regular body belonging to such size and kind of type.

Each person is required to furnish, with the proposals, satisfactory evidence of his practical skill and his ability to do the work, and to offer at the same time good and sufficient security, to be so certified by a judge of the United States Court of the District, or of a judge of a Supreme or Circuit Court of the State or District in which the sureties may reside, for the faithful execution of the jobs and contracts proposed to be undertaken by him, and any proposal unaccompanied with such evidence will be rejected; and it must also be expressly understood, that should it be found, upon opening the proposals of any individual or firm, that the said proposals or bids are made in terms, in quantities, or qualities, different from the plain and palpable terms, quantities, and qualities, for which proposals are invited by this advertisement, such informal papers will not be considered as the proposals required, and will be rejected.

The proposals will be opened, in the manner required by law, on Saturday, the 3d day of February, 1849, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Vice President's chamber, in the Capitol.

For a full understanding of the resolution of Congress upon the subject of this printing, and of the obligations and penalties imposed thereby for any neglect or delay, or for furnishing work or materials of an inferior standard, a copy of the same is appended to and made a part of this advertisement.

ASBURY DICKINS,
Secretary of the Senate.
THOS. J. CAMPBELL,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Joint Resolution directing the manner of procuring the printing for the two Houses of Congress.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and they are hereby, authorized and required, at the beginning of the final session of every Congress, to advertise for four weeks successively, in all the newspapers published in the city of Washington, for sealed proposals for supplying the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, of the next ensuing Congress, with the necessary printing for each; which advertisement shall describe the kind of printing and the quality of paper required, as near as may be, in the execution of the work; and said advertisement shall divide and classify the printing of the respective Houses, as follows: One of bills and resolutions; one of reports of committees; one of journals; one of Executive documents; and one for every other description of printing—each class to be a separate job, and to be provided for by separate contract. The said advertisement shall also contain a designation of the place in the said city of Washington where such sealed proposals shall be received, and the day and time of day at which said Secretary and Clerk will cease to receive any further proposals. And the Secretary and Clerk aforesaid shall provide suitable samples of the printing required, and of the paper on which the same is to be executed, to be kept at the place so designated as aforesaid at least twenty days successively before the time of receiving proposals shall expire, open to the inspection of all persons desiring to make proposals for the printing aforesaid, intelligence whereof shall be contained in said advertisement. Immediately on the expiration of the time for receiving said proposals, they shall be opened by the Secretary and Clerk aforesaid, in the presence of the Vice President, or President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and of such persons making proposals as may wish to be present. And the Secretary of the Senate, under the supervision of the Vice President, or President of the Senate, and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, under the supervision of the Speaker, shall thereupon let each class of said printing to the lowest bidder who shall furnish satisfactory evidence of his practical skill and his ability to do the work, and who shall offer good and sufficient security for the faithful execution of the jobs and contracts undertaken by him. And thereupon the Vice President, or President of the Senate, and its Secretary, and the Speaker of the House and its Clerk, shall proceed to take bonds, with good and sufficient security for the due and faithful performance of the work; and the officers aforesaid shall immediately thereafter report to their respective Houses all such lettings of printing, and the contracts relating to the same: *Provided*, That the said proposals shall remain sealed until the time appointed for examining the same.

SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That a committee, consisting of three members of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives, shall be chosen by their respective Houses, which shall constitute a Committee on Printing, which shall have power to adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary to remedy any neglect or delay, on the part of the contractors, to execute the work ordered by Congress, and to make a pro rata reduction in the compensation allowed, or to refuse the work altogether, should it be inferior to the standard; and in all cases the contractor and his securities shall be responsible for any increased expenditure consequent upon the non-performance of the contract. The committee shall audit and pass upon all accounts for printing; but no bill shall be acted upon for work that is not actually executed and delivered, and which they may require to be properly authenticated.

SEC. 3. *And be it further resolved*, That all motions to print extra numbers of any bill, paper, or document, in either House, shall be referred to the members of the committee of that House, who shall report upon the propriety of printing, and the probable expense thereof, as early as convenient. And all expenses for printing shall be paid from the contingent fund of the two Houses, in proportion to the number of copies ordered by each, except the expense of composition, which shall be paid by the House which shall have first ordered the printing of the paper or document; and if there shall be a second composition, it shall be paid for by the House which shall authorize and direct the same; and when extra copies of any document or paper shall be ordered by both Houses, they shall be delivered to the two Houses simultaneously, in proportion to the number of copies by them respectively ordered.

SEC. 4. *And be it further resolved*, That all laws and parts of laws now in force, not in conformity with the provisions of this joint resolution, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved August 3, 1846. Jan. 4.—4t

COMMISSION STORE.

WM. GUNNISON, *General Commission Merchant*, 101 *Bowly's Wharf, Baltimore, Md.* Dec. 23.—1y

JUST PUBLISHED,

A NEW Anti-Slavery Work, entitled *The Black Code of the District of Columbia*, in force September 1st, 1848; by Worthington G. Snethen, Counsellor at Law, Washington City. Published by the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and for sale at No. 61 John street, New York, by WILLIAM HARNED, Publishing Agent. Price, 25 cents per copy, and 25 per cent. discount to booksellers—invariably cash.

☞ The author of the present work has nearly completed, for publication, the *Black Code* of each of the States in the Union. That of Maryland will next make its appearance.
New York, Oct. 19, 1848.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE—1849.

G. R. GRAHAM, J. R. CHANDLER, AND J. B. TAYLOR, EDITORS.

THE January number of Graham's Magazine—the first number of the New Volume—is now ready for the mails and for shipments to agents. The Publishers and Editors, while expressing satisfaction in the extraordinary success with which their efforts to elevate the character of the periodical literature of the country have been crowned, respectfully offer a statement of their preparations for the New Volume. It is well known that no other Magazine ever published in the English language has presented such an array of illustrious contributors. Bryant, Cooper, Paulding, Herbert, Longfellow, Hoffman, Willis, Fay, Simms, constitute alone a corps greater than any ever before engaged for a single work. An examination of our last volumes will show that these distinguished writers have all furnished for this miscellany articles equal to the best they have given to the world. They, with our other old contributors, will continue to enrich our pages with their productions; and several eminent authors who have not hitherto appeared in our pages will hereafter be added to the list. Of course, therefore, all attempts to compete with Graham's Magazine, in its literary character, will be unsuccessful. In every department, the highest talent in the country will be enlisted, and no effort spared to maintain its present reputation as the leading literary periodical of America.

TERMS.

Great inducements to Postmasters and Clubs, unequalled by those of any other Establishment.

For three dollars, in advance, (par money in the States from which it is remitted,) one copy of Graham for one year, and mezzotint portraits, on proof sheets, of Gen. Taylor, Gen. Butler, Gen. Scott, Gen. Worth, and Capt. Walker. These pictures, properly framed, will make a valuable set of parlor or library pictures. They are engraved from undoubted originals, by the best artists, and are of themselves worthy the price of a year's subscription to Graham's Magazine. Or, at the option of the subscriber remitting three dollars, we will send any three of Miss Pickering's or Mrs. Grey's popular works, or a magnificent print, from the burin of a celebrated English artist.

For five dollars, two copies yearly, and a set of the portraits above named, to each subscriber.

For ten dollars, five copies yearly, and a copy of the Magazine to the postmaster or other person forming the club.

For twenty dollars, eleven copies, and a set of the portraits to each subscriber, and a copy of the Magazine to the person forming the club. Dec. 28.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL,

UNDER the direction of Miss A. G. Snow and E. J. Thompson, Summer street, corner of Schuylkill Sixth street, opposite the Church, Philadelphia.

TERMS PER QUARTER.

Junior Class.—Spelling, Reading, Writing, Geography, History, Arithmetic, and the Elements of Philosophy and Physiology—from $5 to $7.

Intermediate Class.—Continuation of the above, with French, Grammar, Composition, Botany, Natural History, Latin, and Drawing—from $8 to $12.

Senior Class.—Continuation of English and French studies, Ancient and Modern History and Geography, Mythology, Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Astronomy, Geology and Chemistry, Rhetoric, Algebra, Geometry, Evidences of Christianity, Butler's Analogy, with the standard Poetical Works—from $12 to $20.

EXTRAS

Piano Forte, $10 to $20 per quarter.
Harp, $15 to $25 per quarter.
Guitar, $10 to $15 per quarter.
Painting in Water Colors, $5 to $10 per quarter.
Painting in Oil Colors, $10 to $15 per quarter.
The Italian, Spanish, and German Languages, each, $5 per quarter.
The higher branches of mathematics $10 per quarter.
Board and Tuition, $40 to $60 per quarter.
Fuel for the season, $2.

The school will reopen on the 1st of September. Quarters of eleven weeks.

Pupils will be charged only from the time they commence their studies.

Young ladies, not members of the school, may receive instruction in any of the above branches.

REFERENCES.

Rev. Dr. Ducachet; Rev. Kingston Goddard; Rev. N. S. Harris; Matthew L. Bevan, Esq.; Hon. John Swift, mayor of Philadelphia; Professor Dunglison, of Jefferson College; Hon. Edmund Burke, Washington, D. C.; Miss Mary Lyon, Principal of the Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, South Hadley, Mass. Aug. 24.—o
Philadelphia, August, 1848.

ATLANTIC HOUSE.

DANIEL PEARSON, Cabot street, Beverly, Massachusetts. May 4.

LEVI COFFIN,

COMMISSION MERCHANT, and Dealer in Free-Labor Dry Goods and Groceries, northwest corner of Ninth and Walnut streets, Cincinnati, Ohio. Aug. 24.—3m

LAW OFFICE, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

SPENCER & NORTH, *Attorneys and Counsellors at Law*, Syracuse, New York.
Office, Standard Buildings. ISRAEL S. SPENCER.
Jan. 28.—tf JOHN W. NORTH.

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